

STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND
CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

July 2011

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Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

**LD 12 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 131: The
Maine Federal, State and Local Accountability Standards, a Major
Substantive Rule of the Department of Education**

**RESOLVE 6
EMERGENCY**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| | OTP | |

This resolve provides for legislative review of portions of Chapter 131: The Maine Federal, State and Local Accountability Standards, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education. The standards are commonly referred to as Common Core State Standards. Specifically, the focus of the standards are in English Language Arts and Mathematics from kindergarten through grade 12.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 6 authorizes the final adoption of portions of Chapter 131: The Maine Federal, State and Local Accountability Standards, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education. The standards are commonly referred to as the Common Core State Standards. The focus of the standards are in English Language Arts and Mathematics from kindergarten through grade 12.

Resolve 2011, chapter 6 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective March 25, 2011.

LD 18 An Act To Extend the School Year

**MINORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| EDGECOMB SHERMAN | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | |

This bill extends the school year from 180 days to 185 days a year.

**LD 19 An Act To Change the Annual Meeting Date and Fiscal Year of Mount
Desert Island Regional School District**

**P & S 1
EMERGENCY**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| FLEMINGS LANGLEY | OTP | |

This bill changes the annual school budget meeting date for Mount Desert Island Regional School District from the second Wednesday in February to the first Wednesday in April and conforms the district's fiscal year to requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes.

Enacted Law Summary

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Private & Special Law 2011, chapter 1 changes the annual school budget meeting date for Mount Desert Island Regional School District from the second Wednesday in February to the first Wednesday in April and conforms the district's fiscal year to requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes.

Private & Special Law 2011, chapter 1 was enacted as an emergency measure effective February 4, 2011.

LD 45 An Act To Allow Marriage and Family Therapists To Provide Related Services in Public Schools PUBLIC 19

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| EVES ALFOND | OTP-AM | H-19 |

This bill requires the Commissioner of Education to adopt rules providing that a licensed marriage and family therapist is qualified for the position of school counselor, school social worker or other mental health professional in a school setting.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-19)

This amendment changes the title and replaces the bill to provide that school administrative units may employ or contract with qualified licensed individuals to provide related services required to assist children with disabilities to benefit from their special education programs. The amendment also directs the Commissioner of Education to amend the Department of Education rules in Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty to clarify that a person licensed as a marriage and family therapist is qualified to serve as a qualified evaluator and a qualified licensed contractor.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 19 provides that school administrative units may employ or contract with qualified licensed individuals to provide related services required to assist children with disabilities to benefit from their special education programs. The law also directs the Commissioner of Education to amend the Department of Education rules in Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty to clarify that a person licensed as a marriage and family therapist is qualified to serve as a qualified evaluator and a qualified licensed contractor.

LD 66 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Capital Reserve Funds of the Maine Educational Loan Authority PUBLIC 401 EMERGENCY

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MAKER RAYE | OTP-AM | H-149 |

This bill removes the termination date for the Maine Educational Loan Authority's authority to create or establish capital reserve funds.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-149)

This amendment strikes the bill and replaces it to extend the termination date for the Maine Educational Loan Authority's authority to create or establish capital reserve funds to June 30, 2017. The amendment also decreases the limit on the principal amount for certain types of bonds issued by the Maine Educational Loan Authority to

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

\$225,000,000.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 401 extends the termination date for the Maine Educational Loan Authority's authority to create or establish capital reserve funds to June 30, 2017. The law also decreases the limit on the principal amount for certain types of bonds issued by the Maine Educational Loan Authority to \$225,000,000.

Public Law 2011, chapter 401 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 22, 2011.

LD 77 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Create a Resource Guide to Maine History Developed in Cooperation with Franco-American Specialists RESOLVE 17

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BOLDUC | OTP-AM | H-23 |

This bill amends the law governing instruction in American history in schools to require the inclusion of Franco-American history and the study of the influence of French intellectual thought on American history.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-23)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve that directs the Department of Education to create a resource guide to Maine history in cooperation with Franco-American specialists. The department shall periodically update the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs of the 125th Legislature on the number of hours dedicated by the department to the creation of the resource guide and supply the committee with a copy of the final resource guide.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 17 directs the Department of Education to create a resource guide to Maine history in cooperation with Franco-American specialists. The department shall periodically update the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs of the 125th Legislature on the number of hours dedicated by the department to the creation of the resource guide and supply the committee with a copy of the final resource guide.

LD 93 An Act To Improve Essential Programs and Services Funding for Education ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHNSON P | ONTP | |

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to amend the essential programs and services funding and distribution formula and process to improve the equity and adequacy of general purpose aid to education.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 98 Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Education To Adopt a Policy Carried Over
Regarding Management of Head Injuries in Youth Sports

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| PILON ALFOND | | |

This resolve directs the Commissioner of Education to adopt a policy for schools in Maine on the management of head injuries in school athletic activities. The policy must include information, protocols and forms and requirements for removing from an athletic practice, game or activity a student suspected of having sustained a head injury and for banning that student from participation for that day and until the school has received written clearance for the student to resume participation. The resolve requires schools to adopt a policy on management of head injuries and to implement the policy beginning January 1, 2012. The resolve allows the sharing of policies, information, training, protocols and forms with statewide and local organizations that sponsor sports and athletics.

LD 98 was removed from the Special Appropriations Table and recommitted to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-519)

This amendment directs the Commissioner of Education to propose a model policy for schools in Maine on the management of head injuries in school athletic activities. It directs the commissioner to reconvene the working group established pursuant to Resolve 2009, chapter 79 to advise the commissioner on the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of concussive and other head injuries in student athletes. The amendment provides that a model policy may include requirements and procedural steps for schools to follow in determining when a student suspected of having sustained a head injury is able to resume participation in the academic program. The bill establishes a date regarding when schools are required to adopt a policy on management of head injuries and to implement the policy of January 1, 2012. The amendment changes the date to July 1, 2012.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-340)

This amendment adds a mandate preamble.

This resolve was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

LD 106 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: RESOLVE 39
Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty, a EMERGENCY
Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| | OTP-AM | H-148 |

This resolve provides for legislative review of portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-148)

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This amendment provides that final adoption of portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Education, is authorized contingent upon the department's making specified changes to the proposed rule.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 39 provides that final adoption of portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Education, is authorized contingent upon the department's making specified changes to the proposed rule.

Resolve 2011, chapter 39 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective May 19, 2011.

LD 114 An Act To Allow Vietnam War Era Veterans To Receive High School Diplomas PUBLIC 25

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| COTTA COURTNEY | OTP-AM | H-24 |

This bill allows those veterans who left secondary school to serve in the Vietnam War to receive a high school diploma. This diploma may be awarded posthumously.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-24)

This amendment changes the title of the bill and specifies the time frame in which veterans who left secondary school to join the Armed Forces may be considered to have served during the Vietnam War and may be awarded a high school diploma.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 25 allows those veterans who left secondary school to serve in the Armed Forces during the Vietnam War era to receive a high school diploma. This diploma may be awarded posthumously.

LD 130 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Explore Options To Increase Participation in the University of Southern Maine's Extended Teacher Education Program ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BOLDUC | ONTP | |

This resolve directs the certification office within the Department of Education to evaluate the Extended Teacher Education Program at the University of Southern Maine and recommend options for increasing participation in the program.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 139 An Act To Reduce the Time Period after Which a Member Municipality PUBLIC 328
May Petition To Withdraw from a Regional School Unit

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| EDGECOMB SHERMAN | OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN | H-548 |

This bill amends the laws governing school administrative unit reorganization to eliminate the penalties set forth for nonconforming school administrative units.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-548)

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment strikes and replaces the bill. Beginning January 1, 2012, the amendment reduces the time period from three years to 30 months after which a member municipality may petition to withdraw from a regional school unit.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 328 provides that, beginning January 1, 2012, the time period after which a member municipality may petition to withdraw from a regional school unit is reduced from three years to 30 months.

LD 148 An Act To Set Uniform Standards for School Construction ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BOLDUC | ONTP | |

This bill requires the State Board of Education to adopt rules for school construction projects for new schools that set out the design standards used for urban, suburban and rural schools. The state board may not approve the allocation of state funds for a school construction project for a new school unless the new school construction plan that the school administrative unit submits in the application process meets the applicable design standards.

**LD 167 An Act To Provide Full Funding for Advanced Placement Courses MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| KUMIEGA ALFOND | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This bill provides ongoing funds for the Advanced Placement Program within the Department of Education to provide 20 online advanced placement courses per year to high school students in the State.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

**LD 171 An Act To Exempt School Administrative District No. 24 and School
Administrative District No. 32 from the Laws Requiring School
Administrative Unit Consolidation**

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| AYOTTE JACKSON | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This bill exempts School Administrative District No. 24 and School Administrative District No. 32 from the requirements for reorganization into larger regional school units or alternative organizational structures. The Commissioner of Education is required to treat School Administrative District No. 24 and School Administrative District No. 32 in a manner similar to the treatment of coastal islands.

LD 184 An Act To Promote the Financial Literacy of High School Students

PUBLIC 154

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| CHIPMAN ALFOND | OTP-AM A ONTP B OTP-AM C | H-206 |

This bill requires the Department of Education to develop and distribute a course on personal finance for use by secondary schools in the State to help students attain financial literacy. The course must include instruction in purchasing, using credit, budgeting, saving and investing, banking, simple contracts, state and federal income taxes, personal insurance policies and renting or purchasing a home. Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, all secondary schools must include the personal finance course as part of the mathematics instruction required to obtain a high school diploma.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-206)

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment replaces the bill and requires the Commissioner of Education to develop a program of technical assistance that promotes an integrated model for instruction in personal finance to help secondary school students attain financial literacy. The amendment requires the commissioner to submit an annual report to school boards and superintendents that includes strategies and resources available to implement an integrated model for instruction in personal finance for use in secondary schools. The amendment also requires the annual report to be provided to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters and posted on the Department of Education's publicly accessible website.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 154 requires the Commissioner of Education to develop a program of technical assistance that promotes an integrated model for instruction in personal finance to help secondary school students attain financial literacy. The law requires the commissioner to submit an annual report to school boards and superintendents that includes strategies and resources available to implement an integrated model for instruction in personal finance for use in secondary schools. The law also requires the annual report to be provided to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters and posted on the Department of Education's publicly accessible website.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 209 Resolve, To Establish a Stakeholder Group To Review the Maine State Grant Program

RESOLVE 14

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ALFOND | OTP-AM | S-10 |

This resolve authorizes the Finance Authority of Maine to coordinate a review of the Maine State Grant Program that includes the participation of a stakeholder group of higher education policy makers, agencies, institutions, students and financial aid administrators in the State and report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs by December 1, 2011.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-10)

This amendment clarifies that the member of the stakeholder group established by the resolve invited to represent Maine's private higher education institutions represents private, nonprofit higher education institutions. The amendment strikes the provision inviting a Legislator serving on the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs during the 125th Legislature. The amendment also provides that the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may introduce a bill during the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature to implement the recommendations on matters relating to the stakeholder group's review of the Maine State Grant Program.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 14 authorizes the Finance Authority of Maine to coordinate a review of the Maine State Grant Program that includes the participation of a stakeholder group of higher education policy makers, agencies, institutions, students and financial aid administrators in the State and report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 1, 2011. The resolve also provides that the joint standing committee may introduce a bill during the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature to implement the recommendations on matters relating to the stakeholder group's review of the Maine State Grant Program.

LD 232 Resolve, To Change the Name of the Northern Penobscot Technical Center

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CLARK H SAVIELLO | ONTP | |

This resolve directs the Department of Education to rename the Northern Penobscot Technical Center the Northern Penobscot Vocational Center.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 233 An Act To Establish the State Board of Education as the Appointing Authority for the Commissioner of Education LEAVE TO WITHDRAW

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CLARK H SAVIELLO | LV/WD | |

This bill changes the authority for appointing the Commissioner of Education from the Governor to the State Board of Education.

LD 236 An Act To Require High School Students To Register To Vote as a Requirement for Graduation ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BOLDUC | ONTP | |

This bill requires all high school students that are eligible under the laws governing elections to register to vote in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A, section 122 prior to graduation. School guidance counselors are responsible for certifying that students have registered to vote.

LD 250 An Act To Permit Tuition Subsidies by Municipalities MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| VOLK MASON | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This bill allows municipalities to give subsidies from their general funds to parents to reimburse them for part or all of the tuition the parents paid to private schools that are precluded from receiving tuition funding from the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-356)

This amendment replaces the bill. It allows municipalities to adopt ordinances to raise or appropriate money to reimburse all or part of tuition to parents of students who attend private schools.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

**LD 268 An Act To Make the Consolidation of School Administrative Units
Voluntary and To Eliminate the Penalties for Units That Choose Not To
Consolidate** **MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| MACDONALD TRAHAN | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This bill amends the laws governing school administrative unit consolidation to make consolidation voluntary and to eliminate the penalties set forth for nonconforming school administrative units.

**LD 275 An Act To Change the Notice Period for Terminating Teachers'
Contracts** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| HARVELL | ONTP | |

This bill reduces from 90 days to 30 days the period in which a school board may terminate a teacher's contract when changes in local conditions warrant the termination.

**LD 306 Resolve, Directing the Office of Program Evaluation and Government
Accountability To Make Recommendations To Find Efficiencies in
Per-pupil Costs Associated with Interscholastic Activities** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BECK SAVIELLO | ONTP | |

This resolve directs the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability to provide an accounting of the money spent by school administrative units on a per-pupil basis for interscholastic activities and make recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs regarding how to improve the efficiency of the management of statewide interscholastic activities no later than December 7, 2011. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature on the topic of the report by the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

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| LD 326 | An Act To Require That School Administrative Units Bear the Burden of Proving That an Individualized Education Program Is Appropriate | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KENT ALFOND | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This bill places the burden of proof on a school administrative unit in a due process hearing to determine whether the individualized education program developed by the school administrative unit meets the needs of a child with a disability.

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| LD 347 | Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Education To Convene a Task Force To Develop a Proposal for a More Equitable Distribution of Kindergarten to Grade 12 State Education Funding | ONTP |
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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MALABY LANGLEY | ONTP | |

This resolve directs the Commissioner of Education to convene a task force to develop a proposal for a more equitable distribution of kindergarten to grade 12 state education funding.

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|---------------|---|--------------------------------|
| LD 349 | An Act To Require the Inclusion of a Financial Statement on School Administrative Unit Bond Obligations When Voting on a School Construction Project | DIED BETWEEN HOUSES |
|---------------|---|--------------------------------|

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| NUTTING LANGLEY | OTP-AM | H-124 S-346 ROSEN R |

This bill requires that the article submitted to the voters for a school construction project include a treasurer's statement outlining the total bonding capacity of the school administrative unit and the estimated cost of repaying the debt. The bill also clarifies that any errors in the estimates provided in the treasurer's statement do not invalidate ratification of the article. The bill requires that a treasurer's statement of the amount of indebtedness incurred, including indebtedness associated with bonds, lease agreements or lease-purchase agreements, must be provided when the indebtedness incurred exceeds \$20,000.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-124)

This amendment removes the provision from the bill that requires that a treasurer's statement of the amount of indebtedness incurred, including indebtedness associated with bonds, lease agreements or lease-purchase agreements, must be provided when the indebtedness incurred exceeds \$20,000.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-346)

This amendment adds a mandate preamble.

LD 385 An Act To Amend the School Administrative Unit Consolidation Laws

PUBLIC 251

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHNSON P THOMAS | OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN | H-357 |

This bill amends the laws governing school administrative unit reorganization to eliminate the penalties set forth for nonconforming school administrative units. The bill also eliminates the provision that gives the Commissioner of Education final approval of a regional school unit, including an alternative organizational structure, and eliminates the requirement that a school after leaving an alternative organizational structure must join a conforming school administrative unit within two years.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-357)

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment strikes the emergency preamble and the emergency clause from the bill. The amendment also adds an effective date of July 1, 2012 to the bill, including provisions that repeal the following:

1. The Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15696, which sets out penalties for nonconforming school administrative units;
2. References in the Maine Revised Statutes to penalties for nonconforming school administrative units, including in provisions pertaining to a member municipality that withdraws from a regional school unit and does not join a conforming school administrative unit within two years, a member entity that withdraws from an alternative organizational structure and does not join a conforming school administrative unit within two years and referendum provision language for a nonconforming school administrative unit seeking to join an existing regional school unit;
3. Provisions governing school administrative units failing to approve a reorganization plan on or before January 30, 2009 in Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX that cross-reference the penalties established for nonconforming school administrative units; and
4. Provisions in Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX that cross-reference the penalties established for nonconforming school administrative units and direct the State Board of Education to modify rules governing the rating process for school construction.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 251 amends the laws governing school administrative unit reorganization to eliminate the penalties set forth for nonconforming school administrative units. The law eliminates the provision that gives the Commissioner of Education final approval of a regional school unit, including an alternative organizational structure. The law also eliminates the requirement that a school, after leaving an alternative organizational structure, must join a conforming school administrative unit within two years. The law takes effect July 1, 2012.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 389 An Act To Exempt Certain Necessary School Auxiliary Buildings for New Mechanical Systems from Referendum Requirements

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| WINTLE THOMAS | ONTP MAJ OTP MIN | |

This bill exempts the construction of a school's auxiliary building for the housing of a mechanical system from the public referendum requirement.

LD 391 An Act Concerning Models for Teacher and Principal Evaluations

PUBLIC 36

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| STRANG BURGESS ALFOND | OTP-AM | H-52 |

This bill provides that the laws that require the Department of Education to establish models for the evaluation of the professional performance of teachers and principals do not prevent a school administrative unit from developing and adopting its own models for teacher and principal evaluation. It also provides that the stakeholder group convened by the Commissioner of Education to review models for the evaluation of the professional performance of teachers and principals is charged with reviewing only those models established by the Department of Education.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-52)

This amendment clarifies the role of the Department of Education in regard to teacher and principal evaluation models. The department shall propose, rather than establish, models for evaluation of the professional performance of teachers and principals. The amendment clarifies the role of the stakeholder group by indicating that approval of a model is by a majority vote of the group. The amendment also removes the ending date originally established for the stakeholder group to review models proposed by the department.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 36 provides that the laws that require the Department of Education to propose models for the evaluation of the professional performance of teachers and principals do not prevent a school administrative unit from developing and adopting its own models for teacher and principal evaluation. It also provides that the stakeholder group convened by the Commissioner of Education to review models for the evaluation of professional performance of teachers and principals is charged with reviewing only those models established by the Department of Education.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 395 An Act To Mandate That the School Year Not Begin before September 1st

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| LANGLEY | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

The bill provides that beginning with school year 2012-2013, the academic year for elementary schools, secondary schools, the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System may not begin before September 1st, except that elementary and secondary schools are exempt for school days in which students are not required to attend or participate, and school administrative units that receive an exemption from the Commissioner of Education because students of the school administrative unit are involved in an agricultural harvest are also exempt.

LD 397 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Competitive Bidding for School Construction and Repair

PUBLIC 352

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| LANGLEY | OTP-AM | S-187 |

This bill changes the minimum amount of the cost of school construction, major alteration or repair requiring a competitive bid from over \$100,000 to over \$250,000.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-187)

This amendment clarifies that contracts for energy conservation services in compliance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15915 are exempt from competitive bid requirements. It specifies costs to be included when calculating the total cost of the project to determine if competitive bidding is required.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 352 changes the minimum amount of the cost of school construction, major alteration or repair requiring a competitive bid from over \$100,000 to over \$250,000. It requires that when a contract includes ongoing service and maintenance by the person responsible for construction, major alteration or repair of the school buildings, the cost of service and repair must be included when calculating the total cost of the project to determine if competitive bidding is required. It also requires a school administrative unit to use a competitive bid process if two or more contracts totaling more than \$250,000 are to be entered into within a six-month period.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 403 Resolve, To Encourage School Administrative Units To Adopt a Mission Statement for Each of the Public Schools Operated by the School Administrative Unit

RESOLVE 94

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| NELSON | OTP-AM | H-538 |

This bill requires a school board to adopt a mission statement for every school under its jurisdiction. In developing and adopting a mission statement, a school board must solicit input from teachers, administrators, parents, students and community members. The mission statement must be included in the comprehensive education plan required from all school administrative units, and is subject to review as part of the annual report to the Commissioner of Education on the progress of implementing the plan.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-538)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve to encourage each school administrative unit to adopt a mission statement for every school under its jurisdiction. In developing and adopting a mission statement, school boards are encouraged to solicit input from teachers, administrators, parents, students and community members. The amendment directs the Department of Education to provide technical assistance to school administrative units in developing mission statements for the schools under their jurisdiction. The amendment also directs the Department of Education to review the adoption of mission statements by school administrative units under this resolve and to submit a written report with recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs by September 1, 2014.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 94 encourages each school administrative unit to adopt a mission statement for every school under its jurisdiction. In developing and adopting a mission statement, school boards are encouraged to solicit input from teachers, administrators, parents, students and community members. The resolve directs the Department of Education to provide technical assistance to school administrative units in developing mission statements for the schools under their jurisdiction. The resolve also directs the Department of Education to review the adoption of mission statements by school administrative units under this resolve and to submit a written report with recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs by September 1, 2014.

LD 404 An Act To Assist School Administrative Units in Providing Health Insurance to Their Employees

PUBLIC 249

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| NELSON | OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN | H-262 |

This bill allows a school administrative unit to request from its insurer loss information on its employees pursuant to the Maine Insurance Code as part of the competitive bidding process in procuring health insurance for the unit's employees.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-262)

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment replaces the bill.

1. It requires the administrator of an individual school health plan or a group plan covering a multiple-school group to seek competitive bids at least once every five years. The amendment requires that the administrator of any such group plan must make the competitive bids available to individual school administrative units upon request.
2. In recognition of the fact that the premium rates for the plan year starting July 1, 2011 have already been set, the amendment requires the Maine Education Association Benefits Trust to review the current benefits option and consider creating a new benefits option with a lower premium rate for the 2012 plan year or a subsequent plan year.
3. It requires the Maine Education Association Benefits Trust to include a representative appointed by the Maine School Boards Association to serve as a member of the board of trustees of the trust no later than January 1, 2012.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 249 accomplishes the following:

1. It requires the administrator of an individual school health plan or a group plan covering a multiple-school group to seek competitive bids at least once every five years; and it requires that the administrator of any such group plan must make the competitive bids available to individual school administrative units upon request;
2. In recognition of the fact that the premium rates for the plan year starting July 1, 2011 have already been set, it requires the Maine Education Association Benefits Trust to review the current benefits option and consider creating a new benefits option with a lower premium rate for the 2012 plan year or a subsequent plan year; and
3. It requires the Maine Education Association Benefits Trust to include a representative appointed by the Maine School Boards Association to serve as a member of the board of trustees of the trust no later than January 1, 2012.

LD 430 Resolve, To Name the Maine Fire Training and Education Program at RESOLVE 8
Southern Maine Community College the Maine Fire Service Institute

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| GERZOFSKY | OTP | |

This resolve directs Southern Maine Community College to name its fire training and education program the Maine Fire Service Institute.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 8 directs the Southern Maine Community College to name its fire training and education program the Maine Fire Service Institute.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 444 An Act To Require Annual Evaluation of Public School Teachers

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BELIVEAU ALFOND | ONTP | |

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to require that all new public school teachers be formally evaluated on an annual basis. The method of implementation will be at the discretion of each school administration.

While this bill was not enacted, Public Law 2011, chapter 172 (LD 976) includes the initiative proposed in this bill.

LD 449 An Act To Remove the Restriction against a Spouse's Working in a School Administrative Unit in which the Other Spouse Serves on the School Board

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CLARK H | ONTP MAJ OTP MIN | |

This bill repeals the restriction against a spouse's working in a school administrative unit in which the other spouse serves on the school board.

LD 498 An Act To Extend the Length of the School Day

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| DOW | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This bill requires, beginning in the 2013-2014 school year, that a school instructional day, which is a day during which both students and teachers are present, must be at least five hours and 45 minutes in length.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-90)

This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and directs the State Board of Education to amend its rules in Chapter 125, Section 6, subsection 6.02, paragraph B to increase the length of the average instructional day from five hours to five hours and 45 minutes by January 1, 2012. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

**LD 505 An Act To Align State Standards Pertaining to Food and Beverages
outside of the School Lunch Program to Federal Standards**

PUBLIC 224

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| FLOOD LANGLEY | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | H-297 |

This bill amends the law to allow the Department of Education to adopt rules that are consistent with federal school nutrition standards regarding standards for food and beverages sold or distributed on school grounds but outside of school meal programs. Culinary arts programs provided by career and technical schools and programs are exempt from the requirements of the rules.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-297)

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. It clarifies that the federal school nutrition standards for foods and beverages distributed on school grounds do not apply to products prepared in culinary arts programs.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 224 allows the Department of Education to adopt rules that are consistent with federal school nutrition standards regarding standards for food and beverages sold or distributed on school grounds but outside of school meal programs. Culinary arts programs provided by career and technical schools and programs are exempt from the requirements of the rules.

LD 506 An Act To Prevent the Disclosure of Student Social Security Numbers

PUBLIC 223

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| PETERSON COURTNEY | OTP-AM | H-292 |

This bill repeals the provisions authorizing the Commissioner of Education to require local school units to request and report student social security numbers to the Department of Education.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-292)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 223 repeals the provisions authorizing the Commissioner of Education to require local school units to request and report student social security numbers to the Department of Education.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

**LD 530 An Act To Allow Alternative Delivery Methods for Locally Funded
School Construction Projects**

P & S 17

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| EBERLE BLISS | OTP-AM | H-613 S-325 LANGLEY |

This bill authorizes the approval of 10 additional school construction projects by school administrative units seeking to use an alternative delivery method for a school construction project. Such a project must be locally funded, have a minimum total project cost of \$2,500,000 and have an executed contract between the school administrative unit and the project designer dated prior to October 1, 2016.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-613)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment repeals those provisions of Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 79 that authorized school administrative units to utilize alternative delivery methods for school construction projects and enacts the substantive provisions of that law into the statutes governing public improvement construction contracts. The amendment allows a school administrative unit to undertake a school construction project using the construction-manager-advisor method, the design-build method or the construction-manager-at-risk method for school construction projects that are locally funded and have a minimum total project cost of \$1,000,000.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-325)

This amendment strikes Committee Amendment "A" and replaces it with the bill. It authorizes the approval of 10 additional school construction projects by school administrative units seeking to use an alternative delivery method for a school construction project. Such a project must be locally funded, have a minimum total project cost of \$2,500,000 and have an executed contract between the school administrative unit and the project designer dated prior to October 1, 2016.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2011, chapter 17 authorizes the approval of 10 additional school construction projects by school administrative units seeking to use an alternative delivery method for a school construction project. Such a project must be locally funded, have a minimum total project cost of \$2,500,000 and have an executed contract between the school administrative unit and the project designer dated prior to October 1, 2016.

**LD 564 An Act Regarding Retention and Graduation Rates for Maine's Colleges
and Universities**

PUBLIC 232

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ALFOND | OTP-AM | S-144 ALFOND S-74 |

This bill requires all postsecondary institutions in the State, including institutions offering accredited postsecondary educational and degree programs on the Internet, to report annually to the Department of Education the retention rates of the students for each degree program and the graduation rates for students who complete two-year or

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associate's degree programs in two, three or four years and for students who complete four-year or bachelor's degree programs in four, five or six years. This bill requires the Department of Education to report this information annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs and publish the report on the department's publicly accessible website.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-74)

This amendment replaces the bill to clarify the requirements that all postsecondary educational institutions in the State provide institution-wide retention rates and graduation rates. The amendment also provides that the annual Department of Education report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs must include national comparisons of retention rates and graduation rates for peer institutions.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-144)

This amendment clarifies that the information regarding retention and graduation rates must be compiled by the department using information that is already provided by postsecondary institutions.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 232 requires the Department of Education to compile information provided by all postsecondary educational institutions in the State related to institution-wide retention rates and graduation rates. The law provides that the Department of Education provide an annual report, including national comparisons of retention rates and graduation rates for peer institutions, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs. The law also provides that the department publish the report on the department's publicly accessible website.

LD 566 An Act To Encourage Transparency in the Department of Education

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ALFOND | OTP-AM | S-300 S-315 ALFOND |

This bill requires the Department of Education to fully disclose its full budget and the true cost of all its programs and services.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-300)

This amendment proposes to clarify the reporting and public disclosure requirements of the bill pertaining to the disclosure by the Department of Education of its full budget and the true cost of all its programs and services. The amendment directs the Department of Education to review the November 3, 2010 Report to the Legislative Council on Maine Department of Education Program Funding, including the recommendation that the Legislature should consider requiring the department to provide performance-related data as part of the agency's biennial or supplemental budget request for General Fund appropriations. The amendment also directs the department to submit a report, including findings and recommendations on the costs and benefits of providing performance-related data to the Legislature as part of the department's budget request, no later than January 13, 2012 to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-315)

This amendment specifies that, in carrying out the reporting requirement required by this legislation, the Department of Education is to use data that are readily available to, and compiled by, the department. The amendment specifies

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that the department is not required to report on data at a level of detail that does not exist on the effective date of this legislation, and directs the department to provide the reports within its existing resources.

LD 568 Resolve, To Establish an Early Childhood Stakeholder Group

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ALFOND | OTP-AM | S-259 |

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to create a unified early childhood education system that will result in more effective use of limited resources and produce improved outcomes.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-259)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve requiring the Maine Children's Growth Council to establish and convene a stakeholder group to identify options and alternatives to improve the efficacy and efficiency of Maine's early childhood system. The Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services are required to provide technical assistance to the stakeholder group. The stakeholder group is required to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services that includes the findings of the stakeholder group, including options and alternatives developed by the stakeholder group and any analysis by the departments of those options and alternatives. The report may include suggested legislation.

LD 569 An Act To Support and Encourage the Use of Online Textbooks

PUBLIC 354

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ALFOND | OTP-AM | S-186 |

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to enact measures designed to support and encourage the use of online textbooks.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-186)

This amendment replaces the concept draft with a bill to direct the Commissioner of Education to develop a program of technical assistance, including professional development and training for instruction in digital literacy and the establishment of a clearinghouse for information on the use of online learning resources that may be made available to all schools, including those schools that participate in the learning through technology program that provides one-to-one wireless computers for seventh grade, eighth grade and high school students and educators. The amendment establishes the Digital Literacy Fund, to be administered by the Department of Education. Any private or public funds appropriated, allocated or dedicated to the fund may be used to pay for the development of a program of technical assistance. The amendment also authorizes the Commissioner of Education to expend funds allocated to the learning through technology program for the costs of providing the program of technical assistance. The amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 354 directs the Commissioner of Education to develop a program of technical assistance,

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including professional development and training for instruction in digital literacy and the establishment of a clearinghouse for information on the use of online learning resources that may be made available to all schools, including those schools that participate in the learning through technology program that provides one-to-one wireless computers for seventh grade, eighth grade and high school students and educators. The law establishes the Digital Literacy Fund, to be administered by the Department of Education. Any private or public funds appropriated, allocated or dedicated to the fund may be used to pay for the development of a program of technical assistance. The law also authorizes the Commissioner of Education to expend funds allocated to the learning through technology program for the costs of providing the program of technical assistance.

LD 579 Resolve, To Study the Creation of a School of Hospitality and Hotel Management within the University of Maine System

**RESOLVE 53
EMERGENCY**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KATZ | OTP-AM | S-70 |

This resolve is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The resolve proposes to have the University of Maine System study the creation of a degree program for hospitality and hotel management within the university system.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-70)

This amendment replaces the concept draft with a resolve that directs the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to establish a stakeholder group to explore the creation of a baccalaureate degree program for hospitality and hotel management within the system. The amendment also provides that the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System shall present a report, including its conclusions and any recommendations resulting from the review, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 31, 2012, which may introduce a bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 53 directs the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to establish a stakeholder group to explore the creation of a baccalaureate degree program for hospitality and hotel management within the system. The resolve also provides that the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System shall present a report, including its conclusions and any recommendations resulting from the review, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 31, 2012. The joint standing committee may introduce a bill during the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature related to the report.

Resolve 2011, chapter 53 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective May 31, 2011.

LD 598 An Act To Provide Assistance to Economically Disadvantaged Students

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHNSON P THOMAS | ONTP | |

This bill provides an adjustment for a school administrative unit that is a minimum subsidy receiver if its percentage of economically disadvantaged students is greater than the state average.

While this bill was not enacted, Public Law 2011, chapter 419 (LD 1274) includes the initiative proposed in this bill.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 606 An Act To Protect State Education Funds

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| COURTNEY | ONTP | |

This bill prohibits school boards from depositing funds received from the State in banks that do not cover losses in cases of fraudulent automatic clearinghouse transactions. "Automatic clearinghouse transaction" means an electronic funds transfer between bank accounts that groups transactions.

LD 608 An Act To Regionalize Supervision of Students in the Unorganized Territory

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| SAVIELLO | ONTP | |

This bill establishes a four-district school administrative district system for the unorganized territory. The bill requires the Commissioner of Education to develop rules to transfer state management of the school systems in the unorganized territory to these four administrative districts. The commissioner is required to submit to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature provisionally adopted rules and proposed legislation necessary to accomplish this transfer of responsibility. The Joint Standing Committee on Education is authorized to submit a bill related to the unorganized territory school administrative district system to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

LD 619 An Act To Allow School Administrative Units and Educational Advisory Organizations To Participate in the State's Group Health Plan

PUBLIC 438

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| ROSEN R | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | S-64 |

This bill provides that employees of school administrative units and educational advisory organizations are eligible to participate in the group health plan that is available to state employees and other eligible persons.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-64)

This amendment, which is the majority report, incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 438 provides that employees of school administrative units and educational advisory organizations are eligible to participate in the group health plan that is available to state employees and other eligible persons.

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LD 627 An Act To Expand the Capacity of York County Community College Carried Over

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BELIVEAU LANGLEY | | |

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to amend the current law to expand the capacity of York County Community College due to its doubled student enrollment in the past five years.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

LD 635 An Act To Provide for the Equitable Reimbursement of Schools ONTP
Operated by the State in the Unorganized Territory

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CROCKETT SAVIELLO | ONTP | |

This bill provides that the tuition rate that is charged by the Commissioner of Education to a school administrative unit that sends a student to a school maintained by the State in the unorganized territory must be an amount equal to the state average expenditure per elementary pupil as determined by the commissioner pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 5804 or the actual expenditure per elementary pupil calculated by the commissioner for the receiving school administrative unit in the unorganized territory, whichever is greater.

LD 656 Resolve, To Establish a Task Force on Franco-Americans RESOLVE 102
EMERGENCY

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| FREDETTE | OTP-AM | H-88 S-337 COURTNEY |

This resolve establishes a task force to study Franco-Americans in the State. The task force is directed to determine a definition of who is a Franco-American and gather basic data about Franco-Americans, including how many reside in the State, the percentage of the State's population that is Franco-American, if they speak French, their educational achievement, their annual income and where they live. It directs the task force to report its findings and suggested legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, which is authorized to report out a bill.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-88)

This amendment reduces the membership of the task force in the resolve from 15 members to 13 members; requires that the task force work with the Franco-American Center at the University of Maine, while allowing the task force to work with individuals or nonprofit or charitable organizations; changes the reporting requirements to include a

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preliminary report date of December 7, 2011 and a final report date of November 7, 2012; and authorizes the Legislative Council to oversee contributions from private sources on behalf of the task force.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-337)

The amendment explicitly exempts this study from the requirements of Joint Rule 353.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 102 establishes a 13 member task force to study Franco-Americans in the State. The task force, working with the Franco-American Center at the University of Maine, is directed to determine a definition of who is a Franco-American and gather basic data about Franco-Americans, including how many reside in the State, the percentage of the State's population that is Franco-American, if they speak French, their educational achievement, their annual income and where they live. It directs the task force to report its preliminary findings on December 7, 2011 and a final report and findings on November 7, 2012 to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, which is authorized to report out a bill.

Resolve 2011, chapter 102 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective July 6, 2011.

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|---------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| LD 662 | Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Amend Its Rules Pertaining to the Statute of Limitations for Filing a Due Process Hearing Request Regarding Special Education | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
|---------------|--|-----------------------------------|

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KENT ALFOND | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This resolve restores to six years the statute of limitations for filing a due process hearing request in special education matters.

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|---------------|--|---------------------|
| LD 675 | An Act To Establish Multidistrict Online Classes in Maine | Carried Over |
|---------------|--|---------------------|

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ALFOND | | |

This bill allows nonresident students to enroll in a school administrative unit's online learning program, with the school administrative unit of residence for that student to pay the enrolling school administrative unit the student's tuition for the program. The bill also directs the Department of Education to create a stakeholder group to study the opportunities in and challenges of creating one online learning program for the State and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 4, 2012.

LD 675 was removed from the Special Appropriations Table and recommitted to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-304)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill to provide several provisions that allow nonresident students to enroll

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in a school administrative unit's online learning program, with the school administrative unit in which the student resides providing the student's tuition payment to the enrolling school administrative unit for the online program. The amendment accomplishes the following.

1. It expands the eligibility provisions to permit a student to enroll in an online learning program or course that is offered by a school in a school administrative unit, a private school approved for tuition purposes that enrolls at least 60% publicly funded students or an online learning provider approved by the Department of Education; and further provides that a school administrative unit must pay for an online course that meets the content area requirements of the system of learning results when the school administrative unit does not offer the course or the student cannot take the course for certain reasons. These eligibility and course offering provisions are repealed July 1, 2015.
2. It establishes a three-year pilot project, including eligibility provisions, for enrolling students in full-time online learning programs, beginning in the 2012-2013 school year and ending in the 2014-2015 school year. The pilot project provisions are repealed July 1, 2015.
3. It establishes provisions pertaining to online learning programs and online course offerings that a school administrative unit may offer to students who reside in the school administrative unit and to students who reside, and whose parents reside, outside of the school administrative unit or outside of the State. These provisions are repealed July 1, 2015.
4. It provides that school administrative units must provide at least \$5,000 in funding for students who meet the eligibility requirements to enroll in online courses and authorizes a school administrative unit to provide more than \$5,000 in funding when the superintendent provides permission for an eligible student to enroll in an online course. The funding provisions are repealed July 1, 2015.
5. It directs the Department of Education to provide information on online learning programs and courses offered by eligible providers on the department's publicly accessible website. This provision is repealed July 1, 2015.
6. It directs the Department of Education to create a working group to study the opportunities in and challenges of creating one online learning program for the State and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 4, 2012.
7. It requires the Department of Education to evaluate the multidistrict online learning programs that enroll students in one or more online courses, as well as the pilot project that enrolls full-time students, and to report the results of the evaluation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters no later than January 31, 2015. The joint standing committee may submit a bill to the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

**LD 688 Resolve, To Facilitate Participation in Individualized Education
Program Team Meetings and Special Education Dispute Resolution
Procedures**

RESOLVE 63

Sponsor(s)

KENT
ALFOND

Committee Report

ONTP MAJ
OTP-AM MIN

Amendments Adopted

H-189

This resolve directs the Department of Education to amend its rules in Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty to require that schools permit the use of alternative means of meeting

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participation, such as individual or conference telephone calls and videoconferencing, to ensure that the parents of a child with a disability are able to have qualified examiners, experts, advocates and witnesses participate in Individualized Education Program Team Meetings and special education dispute resolution procedures.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-189)

This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment directs the Department of Education to specify in its rules that a school administrative unit is not required to spend any funds to purchase additional equipment in order to comply with the provision that schools provide alternative means of meeting participation to ensure that the parents of a child with a disability are able to have the appropriate persons participate in individualized education program team meetings and special education dispute resolution procedures.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 63 directs the Department of Education to amend its rules in Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty to require that schools permit the use of alternative means of meeting participation, such as individual or conference telephone calls and videoconferencing, to ensure that the parents of a child with a disability are able to have the appropriate persons participate in Individualized Education Program Team Meetings and special education dispute resolution procedures. The resolve also directs the department to specify in its rules that a school administrative unit is not required to spend any funds to purchase additional equipment in order to comply with this provision.

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|---------------|--|-------------------------------|
| LD 689 | Resolve, Requiring the Department of Education To Amend Its Rules Relating to School Administrative Unit Payments for the Costs Associated with Independent Educational Evaluations | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
|---------------|--|-------------------------------|

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KENT ALFOND | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This resolve directs the Department of Education to amend its rule Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty to provide that, when a parent exercises the parent's right to an independent educational evaluation at public expense, the school is required to pay for the full cost of the evaluation, including the cost for the independent evaluator to produce an evaluation report and to appear before the individualized education program team to present the evaluation report, or to ensure that all of these evaluation costs are otherwise provided for at no cost to the parent.

| | | |
|---------------|---|-----------------------------|
| LD 715 | Resolve, To Ensure That Maine Teachers and Paraprofessionals Who Work with Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders Are Appropriately and Adequately Prepared | RESOLVE 47 EMERGENCY |
|---------------|---|-----------------------------|

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| STRANG BURGESS ALFOND | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | H-115 |

This resolve requires the Department of Education to convene a work group to conduct a study to ensure that teachers and paraprofessionals who work with children with autism spectrum disorders are highly qualified. The work group is required to submit its recommendations to the department by November 1, 2011. The department is

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required to submit a report, including the findings and recommendations from the work group, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 7, 2011, and the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs is authorized to introduce legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

This amendment strikes out the "highly qualified" language of the resolve and replaces it with "appropriately and adequately prepared" to eliminate confusion with federal law. The amendment also includes the State Board of Education, along with the Department of Education, to share areas of responsibility.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 47 requires the Department of Education and the State Board of Education to convene a work group to conduct a study to ensure that teachers and paraprofessionals who work with children with autism spectrum disorders are appropriately and adequately prepared. The work group is required to submit its recommendations to the department by November 1, 2011. The department and the State Board of Education is required to submit a report, including the findings and recommendations from the work group, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 7, 2011, and the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs is authorized to introduce legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

Resolve 2011, chapter 47 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective May 23, 2011.

LD 758 Resolve, To Establish a Schoolchildren's Well-being Stakeholder Group ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BOLAND PATRICK | ONTP | |

This resolve requires the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services to jointly convene a stakeholder group to identify options and alternatives to improve and maintain the nutritional well-being of schoolchildren. In particular, the focus of the stakeholder group will be to explore ways and make recommendations to address childhood behavioral disorders, attention deficit and attention deficit hyperactivity disorders, autism spectrum disorders and child obesity through nutritional strategies that include food choices and dietary supplementation. The departments are required to present the work of the stakeholder group to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and may suggest legislation to the joint standing committees, which may each submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

LD 775 An Act To Clarify Special Education Reporting Requirements MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| LOVEJOY ALFOND | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This bill requires a school administrative unit to report legal disputes between a parent, surrogate parent or guardian of a child with a disability and the school administrative unit concerning a student's special education program to the Commissioner of Education. This bill requires the commissioner to track these reports and report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters a summary of the reports received from school administrative units. This bill also requires school administrative units to maintain files on

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each dispute.

LD 776 An Act To Create a Fair Process for Energy Service Companies Contracting with Maine Schools

PUBLIC 279

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| RICHARDSON D | OTP-AM | H-386 |

This bill removes provisions of law that allow school administrative units to use a process other than a competitive bid process in selecting energy service providers for the design, installation, operation, maintenance and financing of energy conservation or combined energy conservation and air quality improvements. This bill requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services to adopt by rule a model contract for these services.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-386)

This amendment replaces the bill. It retains a school administrative unit's authority to use a process other than a competitive bidding process for energy conservation agreements. It revises the current law to specify performance criteria to be addressed in an agreement and the process for soliciting requests for qualifications and requests for proposals and for selecting an energy services company.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 279 revises the law pertaining to agreements for energy conservation improvements to:

1. Increase the maximum length of an agreement from 15 years to 20 years;
2. Define "energy services company" and use that term in the statute;
3. Increase the total contract cost allowed without going to competitive bidding from \$2,000,000 to \$2,500,000 and exclude private and federal grant funds from counting toward that maximum figure;
4. Prohibit a request for qualifications or a request for proposals from containing certain requirements that might exclude qualified energy services companies from competing;
5. Establish performance criteria that must be included in an agreement for energy services;
6. Establish a minimum time period for accepting responses to a request for qualifications or a request for proposals and a maximum period for responding to objections to the terms of a request; and
7. Require the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services and the Department of Education to provide guidance to school administrative units regarding these agreements.

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LD 782 An Act To Expand Competitive Bidding for Energy Service Contracts with Schools ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| WINTLE RECTOR | ONTP | |

This bill provides that school projects for the design, installation, operation, maintenance and financing of energy conservation or combined energy conservation and air quality improvements at existing school administrative unit facilities are subject to competitive bidding requirements.

LD 786 An Act To Eliminate the Penalty for School Administrative Units That Did Not Consolidate and Eliminate State Funding of Local Administrative Costs MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| LOVEJOY | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This bill amends the laws governing school administrative unit reorganization to eliminate the penalties set forth for nonconforming school administrative units. It also requires that a school administrative unit pay local administrative costs using local funds and provides that state funds may not be appropriated or allocated to pay local administrative costs.

LD 800 An Act To Allow the Town of Surry To Join School Union No. 93 P & S 9 EMERGENCY

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| LANGLEY | OTP MAJ ONTP MIN | |

This emergency bill authorizes the Commissioner of Education, upon the submission of a written plan of organization that has been approved by the school boards involved in School Union No. 93 and the school board of the Surry School Department, to adjust the grouping of school administrative units in School Union No. 93 to include the Town of Surry.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2011, chapter 9 authorizes the Commissioner of Education, upon the submission of a written plan of organization that has been approved by the school boards involved in School Union No. 93 and the school board of the Surry School Department, to adjust the grouping of school administrative units in School Union No. 93 to include the Town of Surry.

Private and Special Law 2011, chapter 9 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 31, 2011.

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LD 803 An Act To Allow the Town of Dayton To Opt Out of Its Regional School Unit Agreement ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| PARRY LANGLEY | ONTP | |

This bill allows the Town of Dayton to withdraw from Regional School Unit No. 23 without penalty upon a favorable vote of the residents of the Town of Dayton. If the vote required by this bill is favorable to withdraw, this bill allows the school department in the Town of Dayton to form an alternative organizational structure.

LD 813 An Act To Require Every School Administrative Unit To Have a Food Service Director MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| RANKIN LANGLEY | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This bill requires all school administrative units to hire a professional food service director. The bill allows school administrative units to join in cooperative agreements to hire such directors.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-388)

This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. It changes the requirement in the bill that a school board hire a professional food service director meeting certain qualifications to a requirement that a school board designate a person to serve as the food service director by August 1, 2012. It directs the Commissioner of Education to use existing rulemaking authority to establish qualifications for a food service director. It directs the Department of Education to facilitate the sharing of information among food service directors and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs on these efforts. The minority report was not adopted.

LD 817 An Act To Stabilize Short-term Funding of Public Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DOW | ONTP | |

This bill amends the annual targets for the state share percentage of the statewide adjusted total cost of the components of essential programs and services.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 860 An Act To Reduce Student Hunger

PUBLIC 379

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| ALFOND | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | S-170 S-206 MASON |

This bill requires a public school in which at least 40% of the students qualify for a free or reduced-price lunch to implement a federally subsidized summer food service program to provide meals to children during the summer months. The bill requires the Commissioner of Education to adopt rules to implement the program. The bill also requires each public school to develop a written plan to enroll students who are eligible in the summer food service program.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-170)

The amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, eliminates the requirement in the bill that a public school in which 40% of the students qualify for a free or reduced-price lunch under federal law participate in the federal summer food service program and instead does the following.

1. It provides that, beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, a school administrative unit with at least one public school in which the percentage of students who qualify for a free or reduced-price lunch is determined to be equal to or greater than the minimum percentage established for eligibility under the National School Lunch Program shall participate in the federal summer food service program.

2. It phases in the requirement that school administrative units participate in the federal summer food service program. For the summer following the 2011-2012 school year, a school administrative unit is required to participate if at least one of the schools within the school administrative unit has a student body at least 75% of which qualifies for a free or reduced-price lunch. For the summer following the 2012-2013 school year, the percentage is 65%. For the summer following the 2013-2014 school year and subsequent school years, the percentage is 50%.

3. It provides the Commissioner of Education with the authority to provide an exemption for a school administrative unit and directs the commissioner or the commissioner's designee to work with each eligible school administrative unit to determine if any of the following criteria apply to exempt the school administrative unit from offering the federal summer food service program:

A. Already participating with a municipality, county or nonprofit organization in the federal summer food service program;

B. Unable to administer the federal summer food service program within existing budgeted resources or in a manner that is cost-neutral; or

C. Unable to participate in the federal summer food service program due to an insufficient number of students who are eligible to enroll or participate in the program.

4. It also adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-206)

This amendment clarifies that school administrative units do not have to participate in the federal summer food

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service program for children but may participate and receive support services from the Department of Education.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 379 provides that, beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, a school administrative unit with at least one public school in which the percentage of students who qualify for a free or reduced-price lunch is determined to be equal to or greater than the minimum percentage established for eligibility under the National School Lunch Program may participate in the federal summer food service program and shall receive support services from the Department of Education in developing a plan to participate in the program.

The law establishes a phase-in schedule for the participation of school administrative units in the federal summer food service program as follows. For the summer following the 2011-2012 school year, a school administrative unit may participate if at least one of the schools within the school administrative unit has a student body at least 75% of which qualifies for a free or reduced-price lunch. For the summer following the 2012-2013 school year, the percentage is 65%. For the summer following the 2013-2014 school year and subsequent school years, the percentage is 50%.

LD 871 An Act To Allow a 4-day School Week ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| SULLIVAN | ONTP | |

This bill authorizes a school administrative unit to use an alternative school calendar of four days of student instruction per week if that calendar provides for an amount of student instruction equivalent to that provided by a traditional school calendar.

LD 886 An Act To Remove All Federal Funding from Inclusion in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Formula ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| HARVELL | ONTP | |

This bill removes all references pertaining to the allocation of federal resources from the statutory provisions of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.

LD 903 An Act To Allow a Student Attending Private School Access to Public School Cocurricular, Interscholastic and Extracurricular Activities PUBLIC 456

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| PICCHIOTTI MASON | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | S-331 |

This bill provides that a student enrolled in an equivalent instruction program in a private school that enrolls fewer than 30 students is eligible to participate in public school cocurricular, extracurricular and interscholastic activities.

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Committee Amendment "A" (H-490)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, provides that a student enrolled in an equivalent instruction program in a private school that enrolls fewer than 30 students is eligible to participate in public school cocurricular, extracurricular and interscholastic activities when the private school is not a member of the Interscholastic Division of the Maine Principals' Association, a statewide association that promotes, organizes and regulates statewide interscholastic activities in both public and private schools.

This amendment is a Committee of Conference report and incorporates the substance of Committee Amendment "A," Senate Amendment "A" and Senate Amendment "B." The amendment provides that a student enrolled in an equivalent instruction program in a private school is eligible to participate in public school cocurricular, extracurricular and interscholastic activities when the private school is not a member of the Interscholastic Division of the Maine Principals' Association, a statewide association that promotes, organizes and regulates statewide interscholastic activities in both public and private schools.

This amendment also allows the principal of a school to withhold approval of participation of a student in cocurricular, extracurricular or interscholastic activities.

This amendment also strikes the restriction that allows only students of private schools that enroll fewer than 30 students to be eligible to participate in public school cocurricular, extracurricular and interscholastic activities.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 456 provides that a student enrolled in an equivalent instruction program in a private school is eligible to participate in public school cocurricular, extracurricular and interscholastic activities when the private school is not a member of the Interscholastic Division of the Maine Principals' Association, a statewide association that promotes, organizes and regulates statewide interscholastic activities in both public and private schools. The law also allows the principal of a school to withhold approval of participation of a student in cocurricular, extracurricular or interscholastic activities.

LD 911 Resolve, Directing the Maine Community College System To Establish the Great Works School Campus

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| TUTTLE | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This resolve directs the Maine Community College System to establish the Great Works School in Sanford as a campus of the Maine Community College System.

LD 929 Resolve, To Establish a Study Group To Review the Teacher Certification Process

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| O'BRIEN ALFOND | ONTP | |

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This resolve directs the Commissioner of Education to establish a study group to review the teacher certification process and recommend ways to streamline and simplify the process and reduce the time needed to receive certification as a teacher with particular emphasis on certification for individuals without degrees in education. The commissioner is required to report the results of the study undertaken by the study group along with any recommended legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

LD 938 An Act To Permit Public School Online Learning Programs To Accept Nonresident Tuition Students

**PUBLIC 353
EMERGENCY**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BEAULIEU CRAVEN | OTP-AM | H-537 |

This bill permits Maine public school systems that offer online learning programs to allow nonresident students to participate in those programs on a tuition basis. The participation of nonresident tuition students in these programs will benefit the sponsoring public school systems both educationally and financially.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-537)

This amendment clarifies the provisions in the bill that permit Maine public school systems that offer online learning programs to allow nonresident students to participate in those programs on a tuition basis when the students, and their parents, reside outside the State. The amendment also adds language to repeal these provisions in three years. The amendment changes provisions in the bill that provide that tuition students whose parents reside outside the State may not be counted for purposes of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, may not be included in the statewide assessment program established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 222 and are not subject to Title 20-A, chapter 223 provisions pertaining to student health, immunization and health screening to clarify that the tuition student must also reside outside the State for these exemptions to apply. The amendment also strikes provisions in the bill that propose to establish a definition of "learning coach" and to add the term to provisions pertaining to online learning programs or courses.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 353 permits school administrative units that offer online learning programs and courses to allow nonresident students to participate in those programs and courses on a tuition basis when the students, and their parents, reside outside the State. The law provides that tuition students whose parents reside outside the State may not be counted for purposes of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, may not be included in the statewide assessment program established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 222 and are not subject to Title 20-A, chapter 223 provisions pertaining to student health, immunization and health screening. The law also includes language to repeal these provisions in three years.

Public Law 2011, chapter 353 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 15, 2011.

LD 944 An Act To Increase College Attainment

**MINORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| ALFOND | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | |

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This bill requires secondary school students to complete a federally accepted free application for federal student aid and at least one application to a postsecondary educational institution to assess eligibility for financial aid.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-260)

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. It provides exceptions to the proposed requirement that a student must complete an application to a postsecondary educational institution and a free application for federal student aid prior to receiving a high school diploma. The majority report was not adopted.

LD 949 Resolve, To Require the Department of Education To Submit a Plan for the Implementation of Standards-based Education

RESOLVE 83

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ALFOND | OTP-AM | S-236 |

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to amend the current education laws to update the graduation requirements for the State's high schools and would establish a standards-based system as follows.

1. In order to graduate from high school, a student would have to demonstrate proficiency in all eight content areas outlined in the system of learning results established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6209. In addition, students would be required to be engaged in learning English and mathematics during each of their four years of high school study, or during every year of their high school career if they graduate early.
2. Beginning with the class of 2014, students graduating from the State's high schools also would demonstrate proficiency in each of the five guiding principles outlined in the Department of Education Rule Chapter 132: Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction.
3. School administrative units and schools would be required to create a decision-making system for graduation that enhances or replaces the current system of credit accumulation for graduation. In addition to local requirements that could include the accumulation of credits, students would build a body of evidence that demonstrates their achievement of specific content area learning standards and the goals established in the guiding principles. This evidence would come from across the content areas, would include student efforts within and outside of the school building over an extended period of time and consist of student-designed assignments and assessments, as well as teacher-designed assignments and assessments.
4. The Department of Education would create a series of rubrics for schools to use in evaluating the student's body of evidence and assigning a score to this work. Students would be expected to present their body of evidence to an audience that includes educators from the school as well as parents and key community members chosen by the student. The presentation could be a single event or a series of events taking place when students are prepared to demonstrate readiness, not on a uniform or preconceived timeline.
5. Students would be able to decide to graduate from high school sooner or continue longer than the traditional four-year time frame, placing increased emphasis on the quality of learning rather than the time it takes each student to achieve such learning. The results of these decisions would be noted on a student's transcript as part of the student's permanent record.
6. Schools would be required to report student learning in terms of proficiency in each content area standard delineated in the system of learning results and each of the guiding principles to students and parents at the end of

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each grading period. Scoring decisions would be made by educators from the school administrative unit or the school and would incorporate input from other participants.

7. To ensure a level of trustworthiness of these decisions, samples of student work and local decisions would be submitted and reviewed by the Department of Education periodically to ensure that the standard for graduation retains a level of consistency across the State. Students would have multiple opportunities to demonstrate success and different formats, using multiple measures, to engage in this process.

8. With respect to the guiding principles, each school administrative unit would put in place an assessment system that uses rubrics to pass judgment on student performance on multiple examples of student work completed over time. The Department of Education would develop a set of rubrics aligned with each of the guiding principles that can be used for this purpose.

9. Each school administrative unit's standards-based system of high school graduation would be reviewed and approved annually during the basic school approval process as set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 206. A school administrative unit may choose to create and use different rubrics pending approval by the Department of Education through the basic school approval process.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-236)

This amendment replaces the concept draft with a resolve directing the Department of Education to develop and submit a plan for the implementation of standards-based education, including awarding high school diplomas to students who demonstrate proficiency in meeting state standards in all eight content areas of the system of learning results established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6209.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 83 directs the Department of Education to develop and submit a plan for the implementation of standards-based education, including awarding high school diplomas to students who demonstrate proficiency in meeting state standards in all eight content areas of the system of learning results established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6209.

LD 952 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the School Revolving Renovation Fund

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

LANGLEY

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill amends the laws governing the School Revolving Renovation Fund to provide that repairs and renovations to improve energy efficiency qualify for first priority status in determining which loans to school administrative units are approved. It also increases from \$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000 the maximum loan amount from the fund to address first priority, second priority or third priority projects. It increases from \$3,000,000 to \$9,000,000 the maximum total loans from the fund for which a school building is eligible.

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LD 958 Resolve, To Direct the Department of Education To Review the Carried Over
Essential Programs and Services Model

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHNSON P THOMAS | | |

This resolve directs the Department of Education to have an independent agency not previously involved with the essential programs and services funding formula review the essential programs and services model to analyze the impact of its implementation on children from economically disadvantaged areas, the funding shifts experienced by small rural schools and the result of the regional salary adjustment variable and the economically disadvantaged student variable on the equity of the distribution of state aid to municipalities for education and to provide a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 1, 2011. The joint standing committee is authorized to submit a bill relating to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

LD 958 was removed from the Special Appropriations Table and recommitted to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

This resolve was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-604)

This amendment replaces the resolve to direct the Department of Education to enter into a contract for an independent review of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act through a request for proposal process that awards a contract to a qualified research entity. The department is required to provide a report of the results of the independent review to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs by January 31, 2013. The joint standing committee is authorized to submit a bill relating to the report to the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

LD 959 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Provide Curriculum ONTP
Consistency in Maine Public Schools

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHNSON P | ONTP | |

This resolve is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The resolve proposes to direct the Department of Education to provide a model curriculum to all elementary and secondary schools that meets the requirements of the comprehensive, statewide system of learning results and the Common Core Standards in English language arts and mathematics for kindergarten to grade 12 established in common with the other states as established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6209. The model curriculum should span 80% of the school year, leaving 20% of the school year for schools to raise the standards of or to modify and improve the curriculum to meet local requirements and standards.

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LD 964 Resolve, Requiring the Department of Education To Amend Its Rules To Prohibit School Administrative Units from Imposing Unreasonable Restrictions That Impede the Ability of Parents and Evaluators To Observe Students RESOLVE 42

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KENT ALFOND | ONTP MAJ OTP MIN | S-67 SHERMAN |

This resolve directs the Department of Education to amend its rules in Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty to permit a qualified examiner to observe a child at school or at a potential educational placement when the qualified examiner is not employed by the school and is conducting an independent educational evaluation at the request of the parent.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-67)

This amendment specifies that the rules adopted must permit a qualified independent examiner to observe the child at the times and for the duration that the school would permit an examiner employed by the school.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 42 directs the Department of Education to amend its rules in Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty to permit a qualified examiner to observe a child at school or at a potential educational placement when the qualified examiner is not employed by the school and is conducting an independent educational evaluation at the request of the parent. The resolve also specifies that the rules adopted must permit a qualified independent examiner to observe the child at the times and for the duration that the school would permit an examiner employed by the school.

LD 971 An Act To Improve the Health of Maine Students MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| CORNELL DU HOUX ALFOND | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This bill requires every school administrative unit to provide for all students in grades one to eight at least 20 minutes of daily physical activity, which includes unstructured recess, leisure or recreational time, sports, hobbies or a structured exercise program. A school administrative unit that does not provide this physical activity is subject to a 20% reduction of the unit's state funding for education.

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LD 976 An Act To Require 3 Years of Experience in a School Administrative Unit before a Teacher May Receive a Continuing Contract Offer

PUBLIC 172

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHNSON P THOMAS | OTP-AM | H-243 |

This bill extends the probationary teacher contract to three years and provides that a duly certified teacher is not eligible for a continuing contract in the employing school administrative unit until after the third year of a probationary teacher contract. This bill also extends the period of a duly certified teacher's contract to five years and requires the superintendent to notify the teacher in writing, prior to May 15th before the expiration of the fifth year of a duly certified teacher's contract, of the superintendent's decision to nominate or not nominate the teacher for another five-year contract.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-243)

This amendment specifies that superintendents must evaluate probationary teachers in their second year of employment as determined by school board policy. The amendment increases the probationary period of teachers from its current two-year period to a three-year period beginning with the 2012-2013 school year. The amendment directs superintendents to support probationary teachers throughout their probationary periods. The amendment also directs the Department of Education to review teacher evaluation systems to determine how they are used to aid hiring, retention and dismissal decisions and professional development. The Department of Education is directed to report its findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 30, 2011.

Public Law 2011, chapter 420 (LD 1480), The Errors Bill, amended an error in this Committee Amendment by reinstating the existing two-year contract minimum for non-probationary teachers from the incorrect five-year provision.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 172 directs superintendents to evaluate probationary teachers in their second year of employment as determined by school board policy. It increases the probationary period of teachers from its current two-year period to a three-year period beginning with the 2012-2013 school year. It directs superintendents to support probationary teachers throughout their probationary periods. Public Law 2011, chapter 172 also directs the Department of Education to review teacher evaluation systems to determine how they are used to aid hiring, retention and dismissal decisions and professional development. The Department of Education is directed to report its findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 30, 2011.

LD 977 Resolve, To Analyze the Value of Distance Learning in a Rural Environment

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHNSON P THOMAS | ONTP | |

This resolve directs the Department of Education to conduct an analysis of distance learning via the Internet statewide and for rural communities by establishing two pilot programs in the spring semester of 2012 and analyzing distance learning's cost, effectiveness and impact on the structure of educational districts and the teaching workforce and the feasibility of establishing an online high school. The resolve also requires the department to develop

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legislation to allow enrollment of a student from one school administrative unit in an educational course offered via the Internet by another school administrative unit and to make distance learning via the Internet a top priority in the State.

LD 980 An Act To Prohibit Cyberbullying in Public Schools

Carried Over

Sponsor(s)

PILON
LANGLEY

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

Current law requires each school board to adopt a policy that addresses injurious hazing. This bill repeals the injurious hazing law and enacts provisions requiring school boards to adopt policies prohibiting offensive student or organizational behavior, including injurious hazing, harassment, bullying and cyberbullying. It requires the school board to include in the policy a procedure for reporting the offensive behavior to the authorities. The bill also makes harassment by cyberbullying a civil violation.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

LD 982 An Act To Create a Unified Board of Higher Education

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

Sponsor(s)

ROTUNDO

Committee Report

ONTP MAJ
OTP-AM MIN

Amendments Adopted

This bill replaces the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System, the Board of Trustees of the Maine Community College System and the Board of Trustees of the Maine Maritime Academy with the Board of Trustees of Higher Education to provide a unified body for the governance of those institutions. Part A makes changes to the law to replace some select references to the individual boards of trustees with the unified board and enacts a new chapter in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A with provisions that establish the new unified board. Part B establishes a transition team to recommend further changes to the law to fully accomplish the transition to the unified board. The transition team will specifically recommend changes to determine the qualifications of trustees and the powers and duties of the unified board in a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs. The report of the transition team must also recommend changes to the administration or organization and the existing law governing the University of Maine System, the Maine Maritime Academy and the Maine Community College System to ensure that any potential conflicts with the law establishing the new unified board are avoided. The joint standing committee is authorized to submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature based upon the report.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1003 An Act To Assist Maine Schools To Obtain Federal Funds for Medically Necessary Services Carried Over

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| EDGECOMB SHERMAN | | |

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to increase school administrative units' access to federal Medicaid funding for medically necessary services provided by those school administrative units to special education students for whom those services are required under an individualized education plan adopted for the student and as part of a free and appropriate public education.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

**LD 1013 An Act Regarding School Board Members and Their Spouses MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| O'BRIEN THIBODEAU | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

Current law prohibits a member of a school board or the spouse of a member of a school board from being an employee in a school that is within the jurisdiction of the school board on which that member serves. This bill provides for an exception to that prohibition if the spouse is employed as a part-time substitute teacher or a coach or in some other extracurricular position and the school administrative unit has a policy to handle conflicts of interest. This bill also, in other cases, allows the Commissioner of Education to waive the prohibition if the school administrative unit has a conflict of interest policy in place and can demonstrate, based on the size of the school administrative unit, the geographic location of the school administrative unit and the difficulty in getting employees, that the waiver is appropriate.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-250)

This amendment, which is the minority report, strikes the part of the bill that authorizes the Commissioner of Education to waive the prohibition of full-time employment of a spouse of a school board member in a public school within the jurisdiction of the school board.

LD 1017 An Act To Improve the Essential Programs and Services Funding Model by Providing for a Cost of Housing Adjustment ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| LOVEJOY BLISS | ONTP | |

This bill requires that, beginning in fiscal year 2013-14, the regional adjustment to the salary and benefits costs of teachers and other school personnel be based on the cost of housing in the counties in the State. The bill also directs

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

the Commissioner of Education, in conjunction with the Maine Education Policy Research Institute, to prepare a transition plan that addresses the development of the regional adjustment that is based on a cost of housing factor.

LD 1033 An Act To Support Resource Sharing among Maine Libraries

**HELD BY
GOVERNOR**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ROTUNDO RECTOR | OTP-AM | S-369 ROSEN R |

This bill provides funding to support weekly van delivery service to help defray the cost of sending and returning items through interlibrary loan to public libraries across the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-225)

This amendment specifies that the funds appropriated in the bill are to be used to defray the cost of van delivery service for those libraries that participated in the van delivery service in fiscal years 2009-10 and 2010-11.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-369)

This amendment incorporates Committee Amendment "A" and removes the funding for fiscal year 2011-12.

Enacted Law Summary

This bill was enacted but as of this printing, had not been acted upon by the Governor and, pursuant to Art. IV, Part 3rd, Sec. 2 of the Maine Constitution, currently has no final disposition. It provides funding in fiscal year 2012-2013 to support the weekly van delivery service to help defray the cost of sending and returning items through interlibrary loan to public libraries across the State.

LD 1038 An Act Regarding Property Deposited with Museums and Historical Societies

PUBLIC 263

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| RICHARDSON D | OTP-AM | H-465 |

This bill reduces storage and insurance costs for museums and historical societies by reducing by 22 years the period that abandoned property must be held before title may be taken. The bill adopts the American Association of Museums definition of "museum," clarifies the rights of those lending tangible collection materials to museums and protects museums exercising due diligence in emergency situations.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-465)

This amendment modifies the bill to provide that property that has a value of less than \$100 that has been abandoned to a museum for three years becomes the property of the museum. It also modifies the definition of "museum" to clarify the types of organizations governed by this provision of law.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 263 provides that property that has a value of less than \$100 that has been abandoned to a museum for three years becomes the property of the museum. It revises notice requirements that apply to property

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

valued at \$100 or more. It authorizes a museum to apply conservation measures or to dispose of property without the owner's permission if certain conditions are met.

LD 1045 An Act To Encourage Better Grades for High School Students by ONTP
Linking Grades with the Granting of a Driver's License

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CLARK T | ONTP | |

This bill provides that the Secretary of State may not accept an application for a driver's license of a minor who is enrolled in a secondary school unless the application is accompanied by a letter from the superintendent or principal or an agent of the superintendent or principal or, in the case of a minor who is home-schooled, the person who is in charge of the instruction of that minor, attesting to the fact that the minor is not failing more than one class the successful completion of which is a requirement for graduation.

LD 1049 An Act To Allow a Municipality To Withdraw from a Regional School ONTP
Unit

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KRUGER | ONTP | |

This bill exempts a municipality that withdraws from a regional school unit from school reorganization and associated penalties if the reason for withdrawal is that the municipality's educational goals and financial capabilities are not compatible with those of the regional school unit.

LD 1051 An Act To Calculate Essential Programs and Services Funding on an ONTP
Equal Labor Market

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CLARK H JACKSON | ONTP | |

This bill amends the essential programs and services laws so that salary and benefit costs for school level teaching and nonteaching staff are treated equally throughout the State.

LD 1060 Resolve, To Require Regional School Unit No. 20 To Transfer Certain ONTP
Property to the Town of Searsport

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| GILLWAY | ONTP | |

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This resolve authorizes the transfer of ownership of the former School Administrative District No. 56 superintendent's building to the Town of Searsport.

LD 1083 An Act To Allow the Town of Arundel To Withdraw from Its Regional School Unit without Penalty ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| SULLIVAN | ONTP | |

This bill exempts the Town of Arundel from certain requirements contained in the school administrative unit reorganization law. The bill accomplishes the following.

1. It exempts the Town of Arundel from the requirements pertaining to the withdrawal of a single municipality from a regional school unit.
2. It provides that the Town of Arundel may not be subject to the penalties applicable to a nonconforming school administrative unit.
3. It exempts the Town of Arundel from the requirement that it join with another regional school unit or alternative organizational structure.
4. It provides that, upon the submission of a notice of intent to the Commissioner of Education, the commissioner is required to treat the Town of Arundel in a manner similar to the treatment of other school administrative units that were approved as regional school units after receiving exemptions from and accommodations to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 103-A.

LD 1094 An Act To Improve the Delivery of School Psychological Services to Children PUBLIC 386

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ALFOND | OTP-AM | S-279 |

This bill changes the term "school psychological service provider" to "school psychologist" in the law pertaining to school psychological services. The bill directs the Commissioner of Education to revise the rules to align the code of ethics and practice standards with those set by the National Association of School Psychologists and the American Psychological Association. It requires a school psychologist in the first year of employment to participate in at least two hours per week of individual or group supervision with a certified school psychologist or licensed psychologist. The bill also authorizes a school to be reimbursed for services provided by a school psychologist to students who are Medicaid recipients.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-279)

This amendment distinguishes between two levels of school psychologists. It replaces the scope of services section in the bill. It revises the supervision requirements for a school psychologist receiving initial certification. It removes the MaineCare reimbursement provision in the bill. It directs the Advisory Committee on School Psychologists to convene a stakeholders group and requires a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

and Cultural Affairs no later than January 15, 2012. It authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Educational and Cultural Affairs to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 386 distinguishes between two levels of school psychologists at the specialist level and at the doctoral level. It clarifies the scope of services that a school psychologist may deliver to children from birth to grade 12. It references the current Model for Comprehensive and Integrated School Psychological Services as published by the National Association of School Psychologists for an articulation of the scope and delivery of services. It revises the supervision requirements for a school psychologist receiving initial certification. It directs the Advisory Committee on School Psychologists to convene a stakeholders group to discuss issues regarding certification of school psychologists and requires a report by the Commissioner of Education to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than January 15, 2012. It authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Educational and Cultural Affairs to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature based on the work of the stakeholders group.

| | | |
|----------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| LD 1107 | An Act To Eliminate Penalties under the School Administrative Unit Consolidation Laws for Grand Isle School Department, Madawaska School Department, School Administrative District No. 32 and School Administrative District No. 33 | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
|----------------|---|-----------------------------------|

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| THERIAULT JACKSON | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This bill waives the penalties for nonconforming school administrative units for School Administrative District No. 33, Grand Isle School Department, Madawaska School Department and School Administrative District No. 32.

| | | |
|----------------|---|-------------------|
| LD 1110 | An Act Regarding the Attendance of Attorneys at Individualized Education Program Team Meetings | PUBLIC 363 |
|----------------|---|-------------------|

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KENT ALFOND | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | H-590 |

This bill provides that a school administrative unit may not be represented at a pupil evaluation team meeting by an attorney unless the parent is also represented at the meeting by an attorney.

This amendment is a committee of conference report and incorporates provisions of Committee Amendment "A" that change the name of the team required to develop or amend an individualized education plan for a child with a disability in accordance with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 United States Code, Section 1400 et seq., as amended. The amendment adds language that requires a school administrative unit to notify parents in writing seven days prior to an individualized education program team meeting whether the school administrative unit will have an attorney present at the meeting. The amendment also adds language that, in the event that the parent of a child with a disability has an attorney present at the individualized education program team meeting, the school administrative unit may have an attorney present without providing prior written notice. Finally, the amendment requires the Department of Education to submit provisionally adopted rules to the Legislature by January 13, 2012 to implement the provisions of this legislation.

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Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 363 provides that a school administrative unit may not be represented at a pupil evaluation team meeting by an attorney unless the parent is also represented at the meeting by an attorney. The law requires a school administrative unit to notify parents in writing seven days prior to an individualized education program team meeting whether the school administrative unit will have an attorney present at the meeting. The law also provides that, in the event that the parent of a child with a disability has an attorney present at the individualized education program team meeting, the school administrative unit may have an attorney present without providing prior written notice. The law further requires the Department of Education to submit provisionally adopted rules to the Legislature by January 13, 2012 to implement the provisions of this legislation. Finally, the law changes the name of the team required to develop or amend an individualized education plan for a child with a disability in accordance with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 United States Code, Section 1400 et seq., as amended.

LD 1136 An Act To Require the Opportunity To Recite the Pledge of Allegiance in Schools PUBLIC 162

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| O'CONNOR COLLINS | OTP | |

This bill requires a school administrative unit to allow every student enrolled in the school administrative unit the opportunity to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at some point during a school day. This bill does not require a student to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 162 requires a school administrative unit to allow every student enrolled in the school administrative unit the opportunity to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at some point during a school day. It does not require a student to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

LD 1139 Resolve, To Promote Instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and the Use of an Automated External Defibrillator VETO SUSTAINED

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| GRAHAM ALFOND | OTP-AM | H-387 |

This bill requires that, as a condition of graduation from high school, beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, each student receive instruction and achieve proficiency in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-387)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve directing the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services to gather information on the availability of automated external defibrillators and training in their use. It directs the Department of Education to examine the teaching of cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automated external defibrillators in Maine schools. It requires the departments to report back to the

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

respective legislative committees of jurisdiction.

LD 1149 An Act To Provide Equitable Access to Postsecondary Courses

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MASON | ONTP | |

LD 1149 authorizes students who are home-schooled and students at certain private schools to attend postsecondary courses under the same conditions as those set for students who attend public secondary schools and allows the postsecondary educational institutions to receive the state subsidy for those students. See the bill summary for LD 1197.

LD 1173 An Act To Make Changes to the Maine College Savings Program

PUBLIC 150

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| RICHARDSON D LANGLEY | OTP-AM | H-208 |

This bill makes changes to the Maine College Savings Program, also known as NextGen or the NextGen College Investing Plan, by vesting the act of "holding" the program fund in the authority and not the Treasurer of State; by clarifying that in holding the program fund, the authority may invest, reinvest or commingle the assets in the program fund as authorized or may cause such assets to be invested, reinvested or commingled. The bill alters the composition of the Advisory Committee on College Savings by changing the position held by a member with knowledge of student financial assistance to an at-large position and by changing the Governor-appointed positions held by two members representing institutions of higher education with experience in and knowledge of higher education financial and investment matters to one Governor-appointed member with experience in and knowledge of institutional investment of funds and one member appointed by the chair of the authority's board of directors who is a member of the authority's board of directors, other than the Treasurer of State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-208)

This amendment changes the effective date proposed in the bill from June 30, 2012 to July 1, 2012. The July 1, 2012 effective date aligns the new provisions proposed by the bill with the start of the state fiscal year.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 150 makes changes to the Maine College Savings Program, also known as NextGen or the NextGen College Investing Plan, by vesting the act of "holding" the program fund in the authority and not the Treasurer of State; by clarifying that in holding the program fund, the authority may invest, reinvest or commingle the assets in the program fund as authorized or may cause such assets to be invested, reinvested or commingled. The law alters the composition of the Advisory Committee on College Savings by changing the position held by a member with knowledge of student financial assistance to an at-large position and by changing the Governor-appointed positions held by two members representing institutions of higher education with experience in and knowledge of higher education financial and investment matters to one Governor-appointed member with experience in and knowledge of institutional investment of funds and one member appointed by the chair of the authority's board of directors who is a member of the authority's board of directors, other than the Treasurer of State.

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LD 1188 An Act To Achieve Maine's High School Graduation Goal

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| RAYE | ONTP | |

This bill establishes the At-risk Student Grant Program, to be administered by the Commissioner of Education, to improve the ability of school districts to reduce dropout rates by creating programs, preferably with nonprofit partners, to provide services to at-risk youth that may include an option for residential services and will further the State's goal of increasing high school graduation rates. The program is funded from available resources identified by the commissioner.

LD 1197 An Act To Amend Standards for Participation in Certain Public School Services by Students Who Are Homeschooled

DIED BETWEEN HOUSES

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BURNS DC THOMAS | OTP-AM | H-571 S-356 ROSEN R |

This bill allows a student who is homeschooled to obtain special education services from a school administrative unit and allows the school administrative unit to receive state reimbursement for the provision of those services. This bill also allows a student who is homeschooled to receive reimbursement from a school administrative unit of 50% of the tuition costs for attendance in postsecondary courses as long as the student meets the same relevant criteria as a student at a secondary school in that school administrative unit.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-571)

This amendment replaces the bill and clarifies that a student receiving homeschool instruction is eligible for a state tuition subsidy for postsecondary courses taken under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 208-A as long as the criteria for participation are met. This amendment also clarifies that a student receiving homeschool instruction is eligible for special education services in the same manner that students enrolled in a private school are eligible for these services.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-356)

This amendment adds a mandate preamble.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1206 An Act To Amend the School Consolidation Laws Pertaining to Higher Performing Schools

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| CLARK T SHERMAN | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

The so-called "school consolidation" law exempted "efficient, high-performing" school administrative units. An efficient, high-performing district is one that contains at least three schools that have been identified as "higher performing." This bill allows a school administrative unit to qualify for exemption from the school consolidation law if it has two schools that have been identified as "higher performing."

LD 1211 An Act To Include Civics in the Social Studies and History Courses Required for a High School Diploma

PUBLIC 294

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| NELSON ALFOND | OTP-AM | H-344 |

This bill requires a secondary student to satisfactorily complete at least one course in civics and government to receive a high school diploma.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-344)

This amendment specifies that civics must be taught as part of the required course of study under social studies and history.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 294 specifies that civics must be taught as part of the required course of study under social studies and history.

LD 1214 An Act To Allow a Referendum Regarding School Choice within Regional School Unit No. 12

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MACDONALD | ONTP | |

This bill permits the voters in Regional School Unit No. 12 to vote at referendum on whether to end the choice for students in kindergarten to grade eight residing in the Town of Alna or the Town of Westport Island to attend school in a town other than the Town of Wiscasset.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1237 An Act To Prohibit Bullying in Schools

Carried Over

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MORRISON BARTLETT | | |

This bill requires each school administrative unit to adopt, by August 15, 2012, a harassment, intimidation and bullying prevention policy based upon a model policy developed by the Commissioner of Education in conjunction with an advisory committee composed of representatives of parents, guardians, teachers, school employees, volunteers, students, administrators, community representatives, the Maine School Superintendents Association, the Maine Principals' Association and other interested parties. Harassment, intimidation and bullying prevention policies must be posted on the publicly accessible portions of the Department of Education's website and the respective school administrative unit's website.

LD 1237 was removed from the Special Appropriations Table and recommitted to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-570)

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. It replaces the bill, which requires the Commissioner of Education to develop a model harassment, intimidation and bullying prevention policy and school administrative units to adopt a policy based on the model by August 15, 2012. The amendment defines "bullying" and "cyberbullying." It requires each school administrative unit to adopt a policy to address bullying, which must include an emphasis on consequences that include alternative discipline. It specifies responsibilities for reporting incidents of bullying and for implementing and enforcing the law and policies adopted by a school board. This amendment was enacted; however, the bill was ultimately referred back to the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee and carried over.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-357)

This amendment adds a mandate preamble. This amendment was enacted; however, the bill was ultimately referred back to the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee and carried over.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

LD 1267 An Act To Amend the School Transportation Formula To Recognize One-way Bus Trips

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| SAVIELLO | ONTP | |

This bill amends the formula for calculating school transportation costs to require the inclusion of all mileage accumulated for so-called "one-way trips," in which a school bus is required to travel the same road in both directions due to geographical constraints to drop off or pick up a student.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1269 An Act To Require That the Taking of a Statewide Assessment Test for High School Seniors Be Voluntary ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| SAVIELLO | ONTP | |

This bill allows students in grade 12 to choose to not take an assessment test administered by their school, including the preliminary scholastic assessment test, or PSAT, or the scholastic assessment test, or SAT.

LD 1273 An Act To Establish a 2-week Quiet Period for School Teams ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| SAVIELLO | ONTP | |

This bill prohibits the coach or other advisor of a school athletic team or other school-organized and affiliated team from having any contact with members of the team during the two-week period immediately prior to the beginning of that team's traditional competitive season. This bill prohibits the team or a school-affiliated booster club or support group aligned with that team from engaging in fund-raising during that same two-week period. This bill also prohibits a school administrative unit from being a member of any statewide interscholastic association that places more restrictive limits on contact by coaches or fund-raising.

LD 1274 An Act To Restore Equity in Education Funding PUBLIC 419

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| RAYE | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | S-240 S-273 RAYE |

This bill amends several provisions of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act to more equitably allocate state funds that are appropriated for essential programs and services. The bill makes the following changes.

1. It amends the definition of "property fiscal capacity" in order to base the local school administrative unit's fiscal capacity on the most recent certified state valuation or the average of the certified state valuation for the three years prior to the most recently certified state valuation, whichever is lower. This change provides a more accurate determination of a school administrative unit's fiscal capacity while protecting those school administrative units that are experiencing increasing property valuation.

2. It amends the staffing ratios established to determine the calculation of salary and benefit costs for school-level staff positions by providing a 10% reduction in the staffing ratios for school administrative units with a total school population of less than 1,200 students. This change recognizes that school administrative units with fewer than 1,200 students still have to provide certain levels of instruction, support and administrative positions that do not

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conform to the existing staffing ratios, which are based on enrollment assumptions that do not apply to approved smaller school administrative units.

3. It amends the EPS per-pupil rate calculated by the Commissioner of Education for each school administrative unit by removing the reduction of federal Title I funds from the calculation for teacher salaries and benefit costs. This change reflects the fact that federal Title I funding is one of several sources of revenue that are allocated to school administrative units and expended to support essential programs and services.

4. It amends the regional adjustment in the total operating allocation for school administrative units based on the regional differences in teacher salary costs for the labor market areas in which school administrative units are located by removing the benefits costs for teachers and other school-level staff from the calculation of salary costs. This change addresses the inequitable treatment of school administrative units with lower teacher salary costs relative to statewide averages due to local economic circumstances.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-240)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, removes the provisions in the bill that propose to change the following components of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act:

1. The definition of "property fiscal capacity" upon which a local school administrative unit's fiscal capacity is based; and
2. The removal of the reduction of federal Title I funds from the calculation of salaries and benefits costs for teachers and other school-level staff who are not teachers from the EPS per-pupil rate calculated by the Commissioner of Education for each school administrative unit.

The amendment clarifies the provision in the bill that pertains to the calculation of salary costs included in the regional adjustment in the total operating allocation for school administrative units based on the regional differences in teacher salary costs for the labor market areas in which school administrative units are located. The amendment provides that the calculation of the regional adjustment does not apply to the benefits costs of teachers and other school-level personnel.

The amendment also adds an adjustment for a school administrative unit that is a minimum subsidy receiver if the percentage of economically disadvantaged students in the school administrative unit is greater than the state average percentage of economically disadvantaged students and the school administrative unit operates a school. Finally, the amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-273)

This amendment requires the Department of Education to implement the provisions of this legislation within the existing budgeted resources of the general purpose aid for local schools program.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 419 amends several provisions of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act to more equitably allocate state funds that are appropriated for essential programs and services. The law makes the following changes.

1. It amends the staffing ratios established to determine the calculation of salary and benefit costs for school-level staff positions by providing a 10% reduction in the staffing ratios for school administrative units with a total school population of less than 1,200 students.
2. It amends the regional adjustment in the total operating allocation for school administrative units based on the regional differences in teacher salary costs for the labor market areas in which school administrative units

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are located by providing that the regional adjustment does not apply to the benefits costs of teachers and other school-level personnel.

3. It adds an adjustment for a school administrative unit that is a minimum subsidy receiver if the percentage of economically disadvantaged students in the school administrative unit is greater than the state average percentage of economically disadvantaged students and the school administrative unit operates a school.

The law also requires the Department of Education to implement the provisions of this legislation within the existing budgeted resources of the general purpose aid for local schools program.

LD 1280 An Act To Establish a Pilot Physical Education Project in Four Maine Schools

**PUBLIC 108
EMERGENCY**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ROCHELO ALFOND | OTP-AM | H-125 |

This bill implements the recommendations of the PE4ME planning and oversight team related to improving the health and physical fitness of elementary school children.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-125)

This amendment stipulates that the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services are not required to select pilot project sites and implement pilot projects if sufficient funds are not available from the Obesity and Chronic Disease Fund.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 108 authorizes the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services to use resources allocated from the Obesity and Chronic Disease Fund to develop improved physical education programs for elementary schools in the State. It directs the Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of Health and Human Services and the Maine Governor's Council on Physical Activity to reconvene the PE4ME planning and oversight team, established pursuant to Resolve 2007, chapter 102, to further implement plans for improving the health, nutrition and physical fitness of elementary school children in the State. It directs the PE4ME planning and oversight team to design and implement a pilot project to demonstrate the efficacy of progressive practices involving physical education and health education in up to 4 elementary schools in the State. The Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services are not required to implement pilot projects if sufficient funds are not available from the Obesity and Chronic Disease Fund. The PE4ME planning and oversight team is required to submit an interim report to the Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by January 31, 2012 and a final report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs by January 31, 2013.

Public Law 2011, chapter 108 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 19, 2011.

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LD 1283 An Act To Allow Students Choice in High School Enrollment

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MALONEY MASON | ONTP | |

This bill requires school administrative units to allow school choice. Each school administrative unit must allow up to 20 eighth-grade students choice in public high school enrollment. Receiving schools are required to take the students as tuition students.

**LD 1286 An Act To Rename the Maine Fire Training and Education Program at
Southern Maine Community College the Maine Fire Service Institute**

PUBLIC 166

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| GERZOFSKY | OTP | |

This bill changes the name of the Maine Fire Training and Education Program at Southern Maine Community College to the Maine Fire Service Institute.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 166 changes the name of the Maine Fire Training and Education Program at Southern Maine Community College to the Maine Fire Service Institute.

**LD 1289 An Act To Waive Penalties on School Administrative District No. 32 and
School Administrative District No. 33 under the School Administrative
Unit Consolidation Laws**

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| JACKSON | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This bill waives the penalties for nonconforming school administrative units for School Administrative District No. 32 and School Administrative District No. 33 to allow those school administrative districts more time to organize under the school administrative unit consolidation laws.

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LD 1293 Resolve, To Establish a Study Group To Promote the Use of Locally Grown Food in Schools

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CORNELL DU HOUX | ONTP | |

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This resolve proposes to establish a study group whose purpose is to examine the procedures used by school administrative units to obtain and prepare locally grown foods for use in schools. The study group's purpose would be to develop recommendations to promote and use locally grown foods in a cost-effective manner. The study group would be required to report its findings and recommendations, along with implementing legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, which may submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature. See bill summary for LD 1446, Resolve to Develop and Implement a Farm and Fish to School Pilot Project.

LD 1298 An Act To Facilitate the Certification of Teachers

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| O'BRIEN | ONTP | |

This bill allows an individual who has three months left in a four-year teacher preparation program to be issued a nonrenewable transitional teacher certificate by the State Board of Education. The certificate expires upon the individual's completion of the program and the issuance of a provisional teaching certificate. The bill also provides that semester hours of study that are required for teacher certification may be earned at a two-year accredited college or university.

LD 1307 An Act To Amend and Clarify Certain Education Statutes

PUBLIC 171

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| RICHARDSON D LANGLEY | OTP | |

This bill, submitted by the Department of Education, amends and clarifies inconsistencies in the following education statutes.

1. It aligns the board of directors' weighted votes representation in Method B in school administrative districts with the percentage in regional school units.
2. It exempts certain reformulated school administrative districts that did not operate a kindergarten to grade 12 program from the requirement to maintain such a program.
3. It corrects certain references to school administrative districts to refer to school administrative units.

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4. It clarifies that the vote regarding the closure of an elementary or secondary school in a regional school unit is required only when the school is closed for lack of need.
5. It provides that, for regional school units with only one member municipality, the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4102, subsection 4, paragraph B-1 applies as it pertains to the closing of the regional school unit.
6. It repeals the annual audit requirement for the purpose of approving private schools for tuition purposes.
7. It clarifies that elementary school and secondary school closures for regional school units that have more than one secondary school must be in accordance with the procedures in Title 20-A, section 1512.
8. It amends the language on annual student counts for school administrative units and publicly funded students in private schools or programs for reporting dates to the Department of Education according to time schedules that the Commissioner of Education established. It also amends the laws governing student counts to require that student counts are based on the number of students in attendance on October 1st and April 1st.
9. It repeals an obsolete provision in the laws regarding school construction pertaining to an inventory of public school facilities, which was completed as required.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 171 amends and clarifies inconsistencies in the following education statutes.

1. It aligns the board of directors' weighted votes representation in Method B in school administrative districts with the percentage in regional school units.
2. It exempts certain reformulated school administrative districts that did not operate a kindergarten to grade 12 program from the requirement to maintain such a program.
3. It corrects certain references to school administrative districts to refer to school administrative units.
4. It clarifies that the vote regarding the closure of an elementary or secondary school in a regional school unit is required only when the school is closed for lack of need.
5. It provides that, for regional school units with only one member municipality, the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4102, subsection 4, paragraph B-1 applies as it pertains to the closing of the regional school unit.
6. It repeals the annual audit requirement for the purpose of approving private schools for tuition purposes.
7. It clarifies that elementary school and secondary school closures for regional school units that have more than one secondary school must be in accordance with the procedures in Title 20-A, section 1512.
8. It amends the language on annual student counts for school administrative units and publicly funded students in private schools or programs for reporting dates to the Department of Education according to time schedules that the Commissioner of Education established. It also amends the laws governing student counts to require that student counts are based on the number of students in attendance on October 1st and April 1st.
9. It repeals an obsolete provision in the laws regarding school construction pertaining to an inventory of public school facilities, which was completed as required.

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LD 1316 An Act To Expand Magnet Schools in Maine

Carried Over

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| LOVEJOY | | |

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to give school districts across the State authority to create magnet schools, either within their communities or in partnerships with other districts. Magnet schools that are created under this bill will be eligible for state funds under the essential programs and services funding formula.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

LD 1322 An Act To Extend the Probationary Period for Teachers

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| NELSON ALFOND | ONTP | |

This bill requires school superintendents to implement programs to evaluate and support probationary teachers and extends the probationary period for teachers from two years presently to three years for teachers hired in 2012 and four years for teachers hired in 2013 or subsequent years.

While this bill was not enacted Public Law 2011, chapter 172 (LD 976) includes the initiative proposed in the bill.

LD 1345 An Act To Align Maine Special Education Statutes with Federal Requirements

PUBLIC 348

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHNSON P DIAMOND | OTP-AM | H-536 |

This bill repeals provisions providing for planning the transition of students with disabilities to adult services and for transitional services coordination projects for students with disabilities by the Interdepartmental Committee on Transition in order to make state requirements regarding these students not exceed federal requirements. The bill eliminates the Interdepartmental Committee on Transition. It also repeals provisions for transitional pilot projects for which funding is no longer provided. This bill enacts language regarding the duties of school administrative units and the Commissioner of Education with regard to services for students with disabilities who are in transition from school to the community in accordance with the provisions of rules adopted by the Department of Education. This bill provides for the coordination of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education in the submission of the annual report on efforts to plan for and develop social and habilitative services for persons who have autism and other pervasive developmental disorders and provides that the report also be submitted to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs.

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Committee Amendment "A" (H-536)

This amendment clarifies language in the bill that provides for the participation of representatives of the Department of Labor, the Department of Corrections and the Department of Health and Human Services in transition planning for students who are in transition from school to the community. The amendment also requires the Department of Education to form a work group with representation from those departments and other private and public stakeholders to determine appropriate statutory language pertaining to transition to adult services and the allocation of those statutory provisions in the Maine Revised Statutes to reflect the responsibilities of the various state agencies.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 348 repeals provisions that provide for planning the transition of students with disabilities to adult services and for transitional services coordination projects for students with disabilities by the Interdepartmental Committee on Transition in order to make state requirements regarding these students not exceed federal requirements. The law accomplishes the following.

1. It eliminates the Interdepartmental Committee on Transition.
2. It repeals provisions for transitional pilot projects for which funding is no longer provided.
3. It enacts provisions regarding the duties of school administrative units and the Commissioner of Education with regard to services for students with disabilities who are in transition from school to the community in accordance with the provisions of rules adopted by the Department of Education.
4. It provides for the coordination of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education in the submission of the annual report on efforts to plan for and develop social and habilitative services for persons who have autism and other pervasive developmental disorders and provides that the report also be submitted to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs.
5. It provides for the participation of representatives of the Department of Labor, the Department of Corrections and the Department of Health and Human Services in transition planning for students who are in transition from school to the community; and further requires the Department of Education to form a work group with representation from those departments and other private and public stakeholders to determine appropriate statutory language pertaining to transition to adult services and the allocation of those statutory provisions in the Maine Revised Statutes to reflect the responsibilities of the various state agencies.

LD 1356 An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning the School Revolving Renovation Fund

PUBLIC 153

Sponsor(s)

LANGLEY

Committee Report

OTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill amends the Maine Municipal Bond Bank Act to allow for funding from the School Revolving Renovation Fund for hazardous material removal in schools and for repairs and improvements related to energy and water conservation. This bill also strikes obsolete language.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 153 amends the Maine Municipal Bond Bank Act to allow for funding from the School Revolving Renovation Fund for hazardous material removal in schools and for repairs and improvements related to

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energy and water conservation. This law also strikes obsolete language.

LD 1380 An Act To Extend the Salary Supplement for National Board-certified Teachers at Publicly Supported Secondary Schools That Enroll at Least 60% Public Students DIED BETWEEN HOUSES

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| HASTINGS | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

This bill extends the salary supplement provided to public school teachers who have attained certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards to teachers at publicly supported secondary schools, which includes private secondary schools approved for the receipt of public funds that enroll 60% or more publicly funded students.

LD 1388 An Act To Allow Schools To Adopt Approved Alternative Curricula ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CASAVANT SULLIVAN | ONTP | |

This bill amends the school restructuring statutes to encourage school administrative units to collaborate with approved private schools to develop alternative curriculum frameworks to achieve school restructuring at the middle school or high school level. The bill allows a school administrative unit that is undergoing restructuring at the middle school or high school level to request a waiver of the rule requirements related to the system of learning results established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6209 if the waiver is necessary to achieve school restructuring and an alternative curriculum framework proposed for the school administrative unit's school restructuring differs from, but does not conflict with, the rules related to the system of learning results.

LD 1402 An Act To Extend Employment Reference Immunity to School Administrative Units PUBLIC 397

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DOW | OTP | |

This bill extends employment reference immunity to employees of school administrative units.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 397 extends employment reference immunity to employees of school administrative units.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1422 An Act To Prepare Maine People for the Future Economy

Carried Over

Sponsor(s)

LANGLEY

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill:

1. Establishes an education policy, core priorities for the State's education system, education system goals, benchmarks and intervention strategies;
2. Requires the development of a strategic plan to achieve the goals within the policy framework;
3. Requires that the state budget document present proposed expenditures on early childhood development, public education, adult education, higher education and workforce development in a manner that facilitates evaluation by the Legislature of whether funds are being appropriated and allocated in a manner that best accords with the established policy framework, advances the established goals and implements the strategic plan;
4. Requires that the Commissioner of Education adopt rules prescribing a uniform process for kindergarten screening in a manner that facilitates reliable and consistent measurement of statewide kindergarten readiness;
5. Requires school administrative units to award high school diplomas based on standards established by rule; and
6. Requires that, beginning with the class of 2015, students graduating from high schools demonstrate proficiency in the content areas of English language arts, mathematics, science and technology, social studies and health, physical education and wellness. Beginning with the class of 2018, students graduating from high schools must demonstrate proficiency in the content areas of career and education development; English language arts; world languages; health, physical education and wellness; mathematics; science and technology; social studies; and visual and performing arts.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

LD 1424 An Act To Enhance Parental Roles in Education Choice

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

VOLK
MASON

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill allows parents to petition for the restructuring of a school that is not making adequate yearly progress. Restructuring may include closure of the school, conversion of the school to a charter school, replacement of school leadership and teachers and oversight by the State of structural improvements. This bill is based on a process referred to as the "Parent Trigger" adopted by the State of California in 2009.

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LD 1425 An Act To Protect the Quality and Integrity of Maine's Educational Materials ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| EVES | ONTP | |

This bill requires that, beginning with school year 2012-2013, each school board amend its policy adopted for the selection of educational materials and approve only educational materials that are consistent with a course of study aligned with the system of learning results established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6209 and with Department of Education rules pertaining to school approval standards. The bill also requires the Commissioner of Education to annually review school board policies for selecting and purchasing educational materials, to implement the enforcement measures established by rule and to notify the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters of the school administrative units that fail to comply with these requirements.

LD 1430 Resolve, To Conduct a Review of the Roles and Functions of the Department of Education and of Certain Mandates ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| GOODE FARNHAM | ONTP | |

This resolve establishes a stakeholder group to conduct a review of the roles and functions of the Department of Education and of unfunded and underfunded mandates. The stakeholder group is required to prepare and submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 7, 2011.

LD 1446 Resolve, To Develop and Implement a Farm and Fish to School Pilot Program RESOLVE 91

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MCCABE LANGLEY | OTP-AM | H-488 |

This bill establishes the Maine Farm and Fish to School Program to increase the purchasing by schools of food raised, grown or harvested by Maine farmers and fishermen. It establishes a fund to implement the program. It establishes a minimum percentage of school food budgets to be spent on food purchased from Maine producers and increases that percentage in three steps to 30% in the 2025-2026 school year. It revises the Local Produce Fund in the Department of Education to include meat and fish, removes the maximum contribution of the State set in statute and renames it the Local Food Procurement Fund. The bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, the Commissioner of Education and the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to determine actions needed to fully implement the State's food policy and to take steps and request resources to do so.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-488)

This amendment replaces the bill and makes it a resolve directing the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural

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Resources, the Department of Education and the Department of Marine Resources to support or otherwise assist in the development and implementation of a pilot program to examine the benefits of promoting the purchasing of food grown or raised and fish raised or caught by Maine food producers for use in primary and secondary school meal programs.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 91 directs the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, the Department of Education and the Department of Marine Resources to, within existing resources, support or otherwise assist one or more cooperating nonprofit organizations in the development and implementation of a pilot program to examine the benefits of promoting the purchasing of food grown or raised and fish raised or caught by Maine food producers for use in primary and secondary school meal programs.

LD 1471 An Act To Require Voter Validation for a School Administrative Unit ONTP To Retain Ownership of a School No Longer Used Primarily for Classroom Education

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| THIBODEAU | ONTP | |

This bill requires voter approval for a school administrative unit to retain a school building for a purpose other than the instruction of students.

LD 1488 An Act To Create Innovative Public School Zones and Innovative Public PUBLIC 446 School Districts

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| LANGLEY | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | S-277 |

This bill provides for the creation, submission, review and approval of innovation plans to establish innovative public school zones and innovative public school districts. An innovative public school zone and an innovative public school district must demonstrate a system for accountability for student achievement that exceeds, but is not in conflict with, the State's accountability standards and the State's assessment system. The bill allows one or more public schools within a school administrative unit to initiate the creation of an innovation plan for submission to its school board. The bill also permits a school board to initiate and collaborate with one or more of the public schools it operates to create an innovation plan. The bill provides that a school board may obtain waivers of laws, rules and local policy requirements from the Commissioner of Education that are considered necessary for an innovative public school zone or district to implement an innovation plan.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-277)

This amendment accomplishes the following.

1. It removes the provisions in the bill that propose to require the consent of a majority of administrators, teachers and school staff and students, their parents and the community prior to the designation of a public school as an innovative school, zone or district under an innovation plan.

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2. It provides that a school board must approve the acceptance of private gifts, grants and donations received to offset the costs of developing and implementing an innovation plan.
3. It adds provisions to the bill pertaining to the collective bargaining rights of public school employees when an innovative school, zone or district is established under an innovation plan. The amendment provides for the continuation and assignment of collective bargaining agreements, the continuation of continuing contract rights for teachers and the continued recognition of bargaining agents that represent a collective bargaining unit of public employees employed by a public school that establishes an innovative school, zone or district.
4. It provides for the establishment of the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services within the Department of Education. The fund permits the department to provide grants to school administrative units, municipalities and counties or a combination of two or more of these entities to implement plans for local and regional initiatives such as innovative public schools, zones or districts in order to improve educational opportunity and student achievement through the efficient delivery of educational services.
5. It also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 446 provides for the creation, submission, review and approval of innovation plans to establish innovative public school zones and innovative public school districts. An innovative public school zone and an innovative public school district must demonstrate a system for accountability for student achievement that exceeds, but is not in conflict with, the State's accountability standards and the State's assessment system. The law allows one or more public schools within a school administrative unit to initiate the creation of an innovation plan for submission to its school board. The law also permits a school board to initiate and collaborate with one or more of the public schools it operates to create an innovation plan. The law provides that a school board may obtain waivers of laws, rules and local policy requirements from the Commissioner of Education that are considered necessary for an innovative public school zone or district to implement an innovation plan. The law further provides for the continuation and assignment of collective bargaining agreements, the continuation of continuing contract rights for teachers and the continued recognition of bargaining agents that represent a collective bargaining unit of public employees employed by a public school that establishes an innovative school, zone or district.

The law also provides for the establishment of the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services within the Department of Education. The fund permits the department to provide grants to school administrative units, municipalities and counties or a combination of 2 or more of these entities to implement plans for local and regional initiatives such as innovative public schools, zones or districts in order to improve educational opportunity and student achievement through the efficient delivery of educational services.

LD 1493 An Act Regarding the Powers of the Director of the Maine State Museum Commission

PUBLIC 151

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| LANGLEY | OTP | |

This bill provides statutory authority for the Director of the Maine State Museum Commission to actively solicit the gifts, grants, donations, bequests, endowments and membership fees currently authorized for acceptance by the director.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 151 provides statutory authority for the Director of the Maine State Museum Commission

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to actively solicit the gifts, grants, donations, bequests, endowments and membership fees currently authorized for acceptance by the director.

LD 1494 An Act To Support Maine State Museum Accreditation

PUBLIC 152

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| LANGLEY | OTP | |

This bill provides a clear statement by the Legislature concerning standards the Maine State Museum must follow and the importance of its collections in order to address new accreditation requirements imposed by the American Association of Museums, which provides accreditation for the Maine State Museum.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 152 provides a clear statement by the Legislature concerning standards the Maine State Museum must follow and the importance of its collections in order to address new accreditation requirements imposed by the American Association of Museums, which provides accreditation for the Maine State Museum.

LD 1503 An Act To Promote School Attendance and Increase School Achievement

Carried Over

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ALFOND | | |

This bill implements the recommendations of the stakeholder group established by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to Public Law 2009, chapter 626. The charge provided to the stakeholder group was to develop methodologies and recommendations relating to increasing high school graduation rates and to address other policy issues pertaining to school expulsion, suspension, zero-tolerance practices and truancy in the State. The bill accomplishes the following.

1. It requires the Department of Education to obtain more accurate and complete data in calculating high school graduation rates. In addition to calculating the four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate required by the Federal Government, the department is required to collect and record graduation rates for a five-year cohort and a six-year cohort and also use other descriptors of academic success for school-age students on a statewide aggregate basis, including the Department of Education diploma, high school equivalency diploma obtained through adult education and the general equivalency diploma.
2. It changes the law regarding compulsory school age by reducing the age when a child must start school from seven to six years of age and by increasing the age threshold under which a child who has not attained high school graduation or equivalency is expected to attend secondary school from 17 to 20 years of age. The bill also amends the exceptions to the compulsory school age requirements.
3. It amends the truancy laws by striking all references to "habitual" truancy. It changes the provisions for determining truancy and removes the requirement that local law enforcement be notified of a truant student. It describes response to intervention teams for schools and their duties, including assessing situations of student truancy and developing and helping implement intervention plans for truant students.

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4. It clarifies provisions pertaining to the qualifications and role of school attendance coordinators and requires superintendents to appoint attendance coordinators. In current law, school attendance coordinators are elected. It establishes that the salary costs of attendance coordinators are eligible for state subsidy under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.
5. It directs school boards to review policies and procedures established for the code of conduct and school discipline, including provisions that encourage school boards to focus the code of conduct on positive intervention and expectations rather than unacceptable student behavior and to focus school disciplinary policies on evidence-based positive and restorative interventions rather than set punishments for specific behavior. The bill also requires that schools provide notice to parents or legal guardians of a student's suspension regardless of whether it is an in-school or out-of-school suspension and discourages the use of zero-tolerance practices in school discipline.
6. It establishes due process standards for school expulsion proceedings to inform students and their parents or legal guardians of the procedural steps involved in and of their legal rights prior to, during and following the due process hearing and provide an explanation of the consequences of expulsion.
7. It amends the laws regarding school expulsion to require that all students who have been expelled from school must be provided with a written reentry plan, developed by the superintendent in consultation with the student and the student's parents or legal guardian, that provides guidance to the expelled student regarding what the student must do to establish satisfactory evidence that the behavior that resulted in the expulsion will not likely recur.
8. It further amends the laws regarding school expulsion to authorize school boards to provide educational services to an expelled student in an alternative setting.
9. The bill also provides for an ongoing appropriation of funds to the Department of Education to disburse to school administrative units that request funding for providing appropriate interventions to students who are at risk of becoming truants or dropouts due to an expulsion from school or who struggle with mental health and substance abuse issues.

LD 1503 was removed from the Special Appropriations Table and recommitted to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-287)

This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It strikes the definition of "response to intervention team" and all uses of the term from the bill and replaces it with references to a student assistance team or the school personnel designated by the superintendent in accordance with the system of intervention established by the school administrative unit in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4710.
2. It amends the due process standards proposed for school expulsion proceedings by removing the provisions pertaining to a student's right to appeal the decision of the school board to the Superior Court within 30 days.
3. It amends the provision that requires a reentry plan to be developed for a student who has been expelled by a school board by providing that:
 - A. The reentry plan may require the student to take reasonable measures determined by the superintendent to be helpful to establish the student's readiness to return to school;
 - B. The expelled student's parents or guardian are responsible for the cost of any professional services necessary to establish the student's readiness to return to school under the reentry plan; and

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C. For a child with a disability who is expelled by a school board, the superintendent may, as necessary, provide the reentry plan to the student's individualized education program team.

4. It strikes the provision that requires a school board to use suspensions and expulsions only as a last resort when taking disciplinary action against a student who has violated the school administrative unit's student code of conduct.

5. It amends the changes to the compulsory school age statutes by reducing the age threshold under which a child who has not attained high school graduation or equivalency is expected to attend secondary school from 20 to 18 years of age. The amendment also makes technical changes to clarify the exceptions to the compulsory school age requirements.

6. It strikes the proposed changes to the truancy laws that would have counted excused absences, as well as unexcused absences, towards the number of days of absences that would determine when a student is truant.

7. It strikes procedural provisions proposed in the bill and makes technical changes to clarify the role of superintendents, principals, attendance coordinators and the student assistance team or other systems of intervention established by the school administrative unit pertaining to assessing situations of student truancy and developing and implementing intervention plans for truant students.

8. It strikes the provisions in the bill pertaining to the qualifications of school attendance coordinators and the provisions that propose to establish that the salary costs of attendance coordinators are eligible for state subsidy under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

LD 1540 An Act To Encourage Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education

**PUBLIC 346
EMERGENCY**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| SCHNEIDER | OTP-AM | S-177 |

This bill establishes the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council to develop strategies for enhancing science, technology, engineering and mathematics education from prekindergarten through postsecondary education.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-177)

The bill establishes the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council. This amendment makes the following changes to the bill:

1. It adds an emergency preamble and an emergency clause;
2. It adds the President of the Maine Maritime Academy to the ex officio members of the council;
3. It allows the ex officio members to designate a person to represent them on the council;
4. It adds three new members to the council, including a representative of:

A. The State Board of Education;

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B. An equivalent instruction program that is approved as an alternative to public school as set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 5001-A, subsection 3; and

C. The business sector who employs workers with training in science, technology, engineering or mathematics;

5. It staggers the initial appointment of council members; and

6. It allows the council to form subcommittees of no fewer than three members.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 346 establishes the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council to develop strategies for enhancing science, technology, engineering and mathematics education from prekindergarten through postsecondary education.

Public Law 2011, chapter 346 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 14, 2011.

LD 1553 An Act To Create a Public Charter School Program in Maine

PUBLIC 414

Sponsor(s)

MASON

Committee Report

OTP-AM A
OTP-AM B
ONTP C

Amendments Adopted

H-637 BELIVEAU
S-301

This bill establishes a process to authorize the establishment of public charter schools in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-301)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill to amend and clarify the process to authorize the establishment of public charter schools in the State.

1. It directs the Department of Education to establish standards for authorizers of public charter schools and authorizes the department to investigate and sanction an authorizer of public charter schools that is found to be deficient or in noncompliance with the standards.
2. It requires that the Department of Education adopt major substantive rules to implement the public charter school program.
3. It provides enrollment limitations to protect smaller noncharter public schools during the first three years of a public charter school's operation.
4. It removes the provision that proposed to require school administrative units to provide notice to parents and the public regarding the opportunity to enroll students in a public charter school.
5. It removes certain colleges as authorizers of charter schools.
6. It removes unnecessary provisions from service contract provisions.
7. It adds qualifications to the requirements for appointing certain members to the State Charter School Commission

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and provides that the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters has an opportunity to meet and interview candidates nominated for the commission prior to their appointment.

8. It authorizes the State Charter School Commission to adopt rules to develop, implement and refine its procedures for authorizing public charter schools.

9. It establishes a 10-year transition period during which only 10 public charter schools may be authorized by the State Charter School Commission and provides that public charter schools authorized by school boards may not be counted against the limit established for public charter schools authorized by the State Charter School Commission.

10. It clarifies provisions established for virtual public charter schools related to teacher contact with students and parents to ensure student participation and learning.

11. It requires that a public charter school must submit an annual audit to its authorizer and the Department of Education.

12. It provides that the rules adopted by the Department of Education must address attendance and funding requirements for students enrolled in public charter schools.

13. It clarifies that the funding following the student enrolled in a public charter school is the Essential Programs and Services per-pupil rate established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 606-B and not the actual amount of per-pupil funding raised by local school administrative units.

14. It provides that the rules adopted by the Department of Education may establish an alternative method of transferring funds to public charter schools.

15. It provides that a public charter school may not begin operations prior to July 1, 2012, and it provides that a public charter school application submitted to an authorizer before July 1, 2012 is subject to statutory amendments enacted or rule amendments adopted before July 1, 2012.

16. It directs the Department of Education to present a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by November 1, 2011 on the status of rules proposed to implement this legislation and on the status of suggested legislation to be submitted to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature to further improve the implementation of this legislation.

17. It adds an appropriations and allocations section.

House Amendment "E" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-637)

This amendment makes the following changes to the committee amendment.

1. It amends the definition of "education service provider" to limit the scope of educational services and resources that an education management organization, charter management organization, school design provider or any other partner entity may provide to a public charter school through a contract.

2. It amends the request for proposals provision related to an applicant that intends to contract with an education service provider to clarify that services may not be comprehensive and are limited in scope. It also includes language to clarify the roles and relationship of the governing board, the school's leadership and management team and the education service provider. These changes align this provision of the amendment with the changes made to the definition of "education service provider" included in this amendment.

3. It strikes the request for proposals provision related to an applicant that currently operates one or more schools in any other state or nation.

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4. It provides an exception for virtual public charter schools with respect to the limitations placed on the scope and role of education service providers in providing educational services and resources for a public charter school.
5. It provides that a public charter school has the power to contract with an education service provider as long as the governing board and the school's leadership and management team retain authority over the oversight and management of the public charter school.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 414 codifies a process for the establishment of public charter schools in the State. The law permits the formation of public charter schools in accordance with the following provisions.

1. It establishes a 7-member State Charter School Commission as a state-level “general government” board empowered to authorize public charter schools; and it provides that the commission shall adopt rules to develop, implement and refine its procedures for authorizing public charter schools.
2. It provides that the authorizers of public charter schools are school boards and the State Charter School Commission. School boards may authorize public charter schools within the boundary of the member municipality or municipalities that are part of the school administrative unit. The State Charter School Commission may authorize public charter schools within the State and the commission is the sole authorizer for virtual public charter schools that offer educational services predominantly through an online learning program. Collaboration among school boards, or between one or more school boards and the State Charter School Commission, may authorize a regional public charter school.
3. It provides that a request for proposal developed by an authorizer must include elements of the performance-based charter contract, including academic and operational performance measures and expectations, which must be realized by the governing board and operators of the public charter school.
4. It provides that, except for a virtual public charter school, a public charter school has the power to contract with an education service provider as long as the governing board and the school's leadership and management team retain authority over the oversight and management of the public charter school.
5. It directs the Department of Education to establish standards for authorizers of public charter schools and empowers the department to investigate and sanction an authorizer of public charter schools that is found to be deficient or in noncompliance with the standards.
6. It requires that a public charter school must submit an annual audit to its authorizer and the Department of Education.
7. It requires that the Department of Education adopt major substantive rules to implement the public charter school program, including rules that address attendance and funding requirements for students enrolled in public charter schools.
8. It provides that state and local operating funds must follow each student to the public charter school attended by the student. For each public charter school student, the school administrative unit in which the student resides must forward the per-pupil allocation determined pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 606-B directly to the public charter school attended by the student. The school administrative unit of residence may retain up to 1% of the per-pupil allocation to cover associated administrative costs.
9. It provides that the rules adopted by the Department of Education may establish an alternative method of transferring funds to public charter schools.

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10. It establishes a 10-year transition period during which only 10 public charter schools may be authorized by the State Charter School Commission and provides that public charter schools authorized by school boards may not be counted against the limit established for public charter schools authorized by the State Charter School Commission.

11. It provides enrollment limitations to protect smaller noncharter public schools. The enrollment limitations apply to each of the first 3 years of operation of a public charter school that is authorized by the State Charter School Commission as follows:

A. For a school administrative unit with an enrollment of 500 or fewer students, a public charter school may not enroll more than 5% of the school administrative unit's students per grade level; and

B. For a school administrative unit with an enrollment of more than 500 students, a public charter school may not enroll more than 10% of the school administrative unit's students per grade level.

12. It provides that a public charter school may not begin operations prior to July 1, 2012, and it provides that a public charter school application submitted to an authorizer before July 1, 2012 is subject to statutory amendments enacted or rule amendments adopted before July 1, 2012.

13. It directs the Department of Education to present a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by November 1, 2011 on the status of rules proposed to implement this law and on the status of suggested legislation to be submitted to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature to further improve the implementation of this law.

**LD 1559 Resolve, To Transfer the Guilford Butler School to Regional School Unit
13**

RESOLVE 88

Sponsor(s)

RECTOR

Committee Report

OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

S-164

This resolve authorizes the State to transfer ownership of the Guilford Butler School in South Thomaston to Regional School Unit 13.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-164)

This amendment corrects the spelling of the name of the school that is the subject of this resolve.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 88 authorizes the State to transfer ownership of the Guilford Butler School in South Thomaston to Regional School Unit 13.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

SUBJECT INDEX

Administration, Department of Education, State Board, and School Governance

Enacted

| | | |
|----------------|---|----------------------------------|
| LD 19 | An Act To Change the Annual Meeting Date and Fiscal Year of Mount Desert Island Regional School District | P & S 1 EMERGENCY |
| LD 403 | Resolve, To Encourage School Administrative Units To Adopt a Mission Statement for Each of the Public Schools Operated by the School Administrative Unit | RESOLVE 94 |
| LD 404 | An Act To Assist School Administrative Units in Providing Health Insurance to Their Employees | PUBLIC 249 |
| LD 506 | An Act To Prevent the Disclosure of Student Social Security Numbers | PUBLIC 223 |
| LD 619 | An Act To Allow School Administrative Units and Educational Advisory Organizations To Participate in the State's Group Health Plan | PUBLIC 438 |
| LD 860 | An Act To Reduce Student Hunger | PUBLIC 379 |
| LD 1402 | An Act To Extend Employment Reference Immunity to School Administrative Units | PUBLIC 397 |
| LD 1488 | An Act To Create Innovative Public School Zones and Innovative Public School Districts | PUBLIC 446 |

Not Enacted

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|---------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| LD 18 | An Act To Extend the School Year | MINORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 98 | Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Education To Adopt a Policy Regarding Management of Head Injuries in Youth Sports | Carried Over |
| LD 233 | An Act To Establish the State Board of Education as the Appointing Authority for the Commissioner of Education | LEAVE TO WITHDRAW |
| LD 250 | An Act To Permit Tuition Subsidies by Municipalities | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 395 | An Act To Mandate That the School Year Not Begin before September 1st | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 449 | An Act To Remove the Restriction against a Spouse's Working in a School Administrative Unit in which the Other Spouse Serves on the School Board | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |

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| LD 498 | An Act To Extend the Length of the School Day | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 566 | An Act To Encourage Transparency in the Department of Education | VETO SUSTAINED |
| LD 606 | An Act To Protect State Education Funds | ONTP |
| LD 608 | An Act To Regionalize Supervision of Students in the Unorganized Territory | ONTP |
| LD 635 | An Act To Provide for the Equitable Reimbursement of Schools Operated by the State in the Unorganized Territory | ONTP |
| LD 871 | An Act To Allow a 4-day School Week | ONTP |
| LD 1013 | An Act Regarding School Board Members and Their Spouses | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 1430 | Resolve, To Conduct a Review of the Roles and Functions of the Department of Education and of Certain Mandates | ONTP |

Alternative Education, Charter Schools and School Choice

Enacted

| | | |
|---------|---|------------|
| LD 903 | An Act To Allow a Student Attending Private School Access to Public School Cocurricular, Interscholastic and Extracurricular Activities | PUBLIC 456 |
| LD 1553 | An Act To Create a Public Charter School Program in Maine | PUBLIC 414 |

Not Enacted

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|---------|---|--------------|
| LD 1283 | An Act To Allow Students Choice in High School Enrollment | ONTP |
| LD 1316 | An Act To Expand Magnet Schools in Maine | Carried Over |
| LD 1424 | An Act To Enhance Parental Roles in Education Choice | ONTP |

Career and Technical Education

Not Enacted

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| LD 232 | Resolve, To Change the Name of the Northern Penobscot Technical Center | ONTP |
|--------|--|------|

Cultural Affairs

Enacted

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|---------|--|--------------------------|
| LD 656 | Resolve, To Establish a Task Force on Franco-Americans | RESOLVE 102 EMERGENCY |
| LD 1038 | An Act Regarding Property Deposited with Museums and Historical Societies | PUBLIC 263 |
| LD 1493 | An Act Regarding the Powers of the Director of the Maine State Museum Commission | PUBLIC 151 |
| LD 1494 | An Act To Support Maine State Museum Accreditation | PUBLIC 152 |

Not Enacted

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| LD 1033 | An Act To Support Resource Sharing among Maine Libraries | HELD BY GOVERNOR |
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Curriculum, Instruction, Textbooks and Testing

Enacted

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| LD 12 | Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 131: The Maine Federal, State and Local Accountability Standards, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education | RESOLVE 6 EMERGENCY |
| LD 77 | Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Create a Resource Guide to Maine History Developed in Cooperation with Franco-American Specialists | RESOLVE 17 |
| LD 184 | An Act To Promote the Financial Literacy of High School Students | PUBLIC 154 |
| LD 949 | Resolve, To Require the Department of Education To Submit a Plan for the Implementation of Standards-based Education | RESOLVE 83 |
| LD 1211 | An Act To Include Civics in the Social Studies and History Courses Required for a High School Diploma | PUBLIC 294 |
| LD 1540 | An Act To Encourage Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education | PUBLIC 346 EMERGENCY |

Not Enacted

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| LD 236 | An Act To Require High School Students To Register To Vote as a Requirement for Graduation | ONTP |
| LD 944 | An Act To Increase College Attainment | MINORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 959 | Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Provide Curriculum Consistency in Maine Public Schools | ONTP |
| LD 1269 | An Act To Require That the Taking of a Statewide Assessment Test for High School Seniors Be Voluntary | ONTP |
| LD 1388 | An Act To Allow Schools To Adopt Approved Alternative Curricula | ONTP |

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|---------|--|--------------|
| LD 1422 | An Act To Prepare Maine People for the Future Economy | Carried Over |
| LD 1425 | An Act To Protect the Quality and Integrity of Maine's Educational Materials | ONTP |

Education - Other

Enacted

| | | |
|---------|---|------------|
| LD 114 | An Act To Allow Vietnam War Era Veterans To Receive High School Diplomas | PUBLIC 25 |
| LD 1094 | An Act To Improve the Delivery of School Psychological Services to Children | PUBLIC 386 |
| LD 1136 | An Act To Require the Opportunity To Recite the Pledge of Allegiance in Schools | PUBLIC 162 |

Not Enacted

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| LD 306 | Resolve, Directing the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability To Make Recommendations To Find Efficiencies in Per-pupil Costs Associated with Interscholastic Activities | ONTP |
| LD 758 | Resolve, To Establish a Schoolchildren's Well-being Stakeholder Group | ONTP |
| LD 813 | An Act To Require Every School Administrative Unit To Have a Food Service Director | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 1045 | An Act To Encourage Better Grades for High School Students by Linking Grades with the Granting of a Driver's License | ONTP |
| LD 1273 | An Act To Establish a 2-week Quiet Period for School Teams | ONTP |

Health, Nutrition and Safety

Enacted

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|---------|---|-------------------------|
| LD 505 | An Act To Align State Standards Pertaining to Food and Beverages outside of the School Lunch Program to Federal Standards | PUBLIC 224 |
| LD 1280 | An Act To Establish a Pilot Physical Education Project in Four Maine Schools | PUBLIC 108 EMERGENCY |
| LD 1446 | Resolve, To Develop and Implement a Farm and Fish to School Pilot Program | RESOLVE 91 |

Not Enacted

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|---------|---|---------------------------|
| LD 971 | An Act To Improve the Health of Maine Students | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 1139 | Resolve, To Promote Instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and the Use of an Automated External Defibrillator | VETO SUSTAINED |

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| LD 1293 | Resolve, To Establish a Study Group To Promote the Use of Locally Grown Food in Schools | ONTP |
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Online Learning Programs and Courses

Enacted

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|--------|--|-------------------------|
| LD 569 | An Act To Support and Encourage the Use of Online Textbooks | PUBLIC 354 |
| LD 938 | An Act To Permit Public School Online Learning Programs To Accept Nonresident Tuition Students | PUBLIC 353 EMERGENCY |

Not Enacted

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|--------|---|---------------------------|
| LD 167 | An Act To Provide Full Funding for Advanced Placement Courses | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 675 | An Act To Establish Multidistrict Online Classes in Maine | Carried Over |
| LD 977 | Resolve, To Analyze the Value of Distance Learning in a Rural Environment | ONTP |

Postsecondary Education Finance and Student Aid

Enacted

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|---------|--|-------------------------|
| LD 66 | An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Capital Reserve Funds of the Maine Educational Loan Authority | PUBLIC 401 EMERGENCY |
| LD 209 | Resolve, To Establish a Stakeholder Group To Review the Maine State Grant Program | RESOLVE 14 |
| LD 1173 | An Act To Make Changes to the Maine College Savings Program | PUBLIC 150 |

Not Enacted

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| LD 627 | An Act To Expand the Capacity of York County Community College | Carried Over |
| LD 1149 | An Act To Provide Equitable Access to Postsecondary Courses | ONTP |

Postsecondary Education Governance and Coordination

Enacted

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|--------|---|-------------------------|
| LD 430 | Resolve, To Name the Maine Fire Training and Education Program at Southern Maine Community College the Maine Fire Service Institute | RESOLVE 8 |
| LD 564 | An Act Regarding Retention and Graduation Rates for Maine's Colleges and Universities | PUBLIC 232 |
| LD 579 | Resolve, To Study the Creation of a School of Hospitality and Hotel Management within the University of Maine System | RESOLVE 53 EMERGENCY |

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| LD 1286 | An Act To Rename the Maine Fire Training and Education Program at Southern Maine Community College the Maine Fire Service Institute | PUBLIC 166 |
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Not Enacted

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| LD 911 | Resolve, Directing the Maine Community College System To Establish the Great Works School Campus | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
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| LD 982 | An Act To Create a Unified Board of Higher Education | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
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Safe Schools and Student Conduct

Not Enacted

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| LD 980 | An Act To Prohibit Cyberbullying in Public Schools | Carried Over |
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| LD 1237 | An Act To Prohibit Bullying in Schools | Carried Over |
|---------|--|--------------|

School Budgets

Not Enacted

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|--------|--|------------------------|
| LD 349 | An Act To Require the Inclusion of a Financial Statement on School Administrative Unit Bond Obligations When Voting on a School Construction Project | DIED BETWEEN HOUSES |
|--------|--|------------------------|

School Construction, Facilities and Buses

Enacted

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| LD 397 | An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Competitive Bidding for School Construction and Repair | PUBLIC 352 |
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| LD 530 | An Act To Allow Alternative Delivery Methods for Locally Funded School Construction Projects | P & S 17 |
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| LD 776 | An Act To Create a Fair Process for Energy Service Companies Contracting with Maine Schools | PUBLIC 279 |
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| LD 1356 | An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning the School Revolving Renovation Fund | PUBLIC 153 |
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| LD 1559 | Resolve, To Transfer the Gilford Butler School to Regional School Unit 13 | RESOLVE 88 |
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Not Enacted

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| LD 148 | An Act To Set Uniform Standards for School Construction | ONTP |
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| LD 389 | An Act To Exempt Certain Necessary School Auxiliary Buildings for New Mechanical Systems from Referendum Requirements | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
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| LD 782 | An Act To Expand Competitive Bidding for Energy Service Contracts with Schools | ONTP |
| LD 952 | An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the School Revolving Renovation Fund | ONTP |
| LD 1060 | Resolve, To Require Regional School Unit No. 20 To Transfer Certain Property to the Town of Searsport | ONTP |
| LD 1267 | An Act To Amend the School Transportation Formula To Recognize One-way Bus Trips | ONTP |
| LD 1471 | An Act To Require Voter Validation for a School Administrative Unit To Retain Ownership of a School No Longer Used Primarily for Classroom Education | ONTP |

School District Reorganization

Enacted

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|---------|---|----------------------|
| LD 139 | An Act To Reduce the Time Period after Which a Member Municipality May Petition To Withdraw from a Regional School Unit | PUBLIC 328 |
| LD 385 | An Act To Amend the School Administrative Unit Consolidation Laws | PUBLIC 251 |
| LD 800 | An Act To Allow the Town of Surry To Join School Union No. 93 | P & S 9 EMERGENCY |
| LD 1307 | An Act To Amend and Clarify Certain Education Statutes | PUBLIC 171 |

Not Enacted

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|---------|--|---------------------------|
| LD 171 | An Act To Exempt School Administrative District No. 24 and School Administrative District No. 32 from the Laws Requiring School Administrative Unit Consolidation | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 268 | An Act To Make the Consolidation of School Administrative Units Voluntary and To Eliminate the Penalties for Units That Choose Not To Consolidate | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 786 | An Act To Eliminate the Penalty for School Administrative Units That Did Not Consolidate and Eliminate State Funding of Local Administrative Costs | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 803 | An Act To Allow the Town of Dayton To Opt Out of Its Regional School Unit Agreement | ONTP |
| LD 1049 | An Act To Allow a Municipality To Withdraw from a Regional School Unit | ONTP |
| LD 1107 | An Act To Eliminate Penalties under the School Administrative Unit Consolidation Laws for Grand Isle School Department, Madawaska School Department, School Administrative District No. 32 and School Administrative District No. 33 | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 1206 | An Act To Amend the School Consolidation Laws Pertaining to Higher Performing Schools | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |

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|---------|--|---------------------------|
| LD 1214 | An Act To Allow a Referendum Regarding School Choice within Regional School Unit No. 12 | ONTP |
| LD 1289 | An Act To Waive Penalties on School Administrative District No. 32 and School Administrative District No. 33 under the School Administrative Unit Consolidation Laws | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |

School Finance

Enacted

| | | |
|---------|---|------------|
| LD 1274 | An Act To Restore Equity in Education Funding | PUBLIC 419 |
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Not Enacted

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| LD 93 | An Act To Improve Essential Programs and Services Funding for Education | ONTP |
| LD 347 | Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Education To Convene a Task Force To Develop a Proposal for a More Equitable Distribution of Kindergarten to Grade 12 State Education Funding | ONTP |
| LD 598 | An Act To Provide Assistance to Economically Disadvantaged Students | ONTP |
| LD 817 | An Act To Stabilize Short-term Funding of Public Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education | ONTP |
| LD 886 | An Act To Remove All Federal Funding from Inclusion in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Formula | ONTP |
| LD 958 | Resolve, To Direct the Department of Education To Review the Essential Programs and Services Model | Carried Over |
| LD 1017 | An Act To Improve the Essential Programs and Services Funding Model by Providing for a Cost of Housing Adjustment | ONTP |
| LD 1051 | An Act To Calculate Essential Programs and Services Funding on an Equal Labor Market | ONTP |
| LD 1083 | An Act To Allow the Town of Arundel To Withdraw from Its Regional School Unit without Penalty | ONTP |

Special Education Programs and Finance

Enacted

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| LD 45 | An Act To Allow Marriage and Family Therapists To Provide Related Services in Public Schools | PUBLIC 19 |
| LD 106 | Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education | RESOLVE 39 EMERGENCY |
| LD 688 | Resolve, To Facilitate Participation in Individualized Education Program Team Meetings and Special Education Dispute Resolution Procedures | RESOLVE 63 |

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| LD 715 | Resolve, To Ensure That Maine Teachers and Paraprofessionals Who Work with Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders Are Appropriately and Adequately Prepared | RESOLVE 47 EMERGENCY |
| LD 964 | Resolve, Requiring the Department of Education To Amend Its Rules To Prohibit School Administrative Units from Imposing Unreasonable Restrictions That Impede the Ability of Parents and Evaluators To Observe Students | RESOLVE 42 |
| LD 1110 | An Act Regarding the Attendance of Attorneys at Individualized Education Program Team Meetings | PUBLIC 363 |
| LD 1345 | An Act To Align Maine Special Education Statutes with Federal Requirements | PUBLIC 348 |
| <u>Not Enacted</u> | | |
| LD 326 | An Act To Require That School Administrative Units Bear the Burden of Proving That an Individualized Education Program Is Appropriate | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 568 | Resolve, To Establish an Early Childhood Stakeholder Group | VETO SUSTAINED |
| LD 662 | Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Amend Its Rules Pertaining to the Statute of Limitations for Filing a Due Process Hearing Request Regarding Special Education | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 689 | Resolve, Requiring the Department of Education To Amend Its Rules Relating to School Administrative Unit Payments for the Costs Associated with Independent Educational Evaluations | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 775 | An Act To Clarify Special Education Reporting Requirements | MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT |
| LD 1003 | An Act To Assist Maine Schools To Obtain Federal Funds for Medically Necessary Services | Carried Over |
| LD 1197 | An Act To Amend Standards for Participation in Certain Public School Services by Students Who Are Homeschooled | DIED BETWEEN HOUSES |

Teachers and Administrators

Enacted

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| LD 391 | An Act Concerning Models for Teacher and Principal Evaluations | PUBLIC 36 |
| LD 976 | An Act To Require 3 Years of Experience in a School Administrative Unit before a Teacher May Receive a Continuing Contract Offer | PUBLIC 172 |

Not Enacted

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| LD 130 | Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Explore Options To Increase Participation in the University of Southern Maine's Extended Teacher Education Program | ONTP |
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| LD 275 | An Act To Change the Notice Period for Terminating Teachers' Contracts | ONTP |
| LD 444 | An Act To Require Annual Evaluation of Public School Teachers | ONTP |
| LD 929 | Resolve, To Establish a Study Group To Review the Teacher Certification Process | ONTP |
| LD 1298 | An Act To Facilitate the Certification of Teachers | ONTP |
| LD 1322 | An Act To Extend the Probationary Period for Teachers | ONTP |
| LD 1380 | An Act To Extend the Salary Supplement for National Board-certified Teachers at Publicly Supported Secondary Schools That Enroll at Least 60% Public Students | DIED BETWEEN HOUSES |

Truants, Dropouts and Homeless Students

Not Enacted

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| LD 1188 | An Act To Achieve Maine's High School Graduation Goal | ONTP |
| LD 1503 | An Act To Promote School Attendance and Increase School Achievement | Carried Over |

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